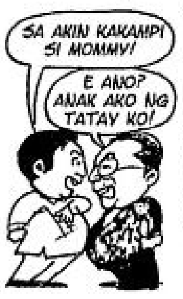
Vatican names temporary replacement for Bacani

Story below, Col. 3

Macapagal vs Arroyo in Pampanga politics


SA AKIN KAKAMPI SI MOMMY!
E ANO? ANAK AKO NG TATAY KO!

By Jun Malig
PDI Central Luzon Desk

ONE of the most interesting political contests in next year's elections might just be that in the 2nd congressional district of Pampanga.

President Macapa-

MACAPAGAL/ A18

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARL[illegible] [illegible]IEWS

IN *today's issue*

- **Prince William turns 21** LIFESTYLE /D1
- **The return of Lolita Rodriquez** ENTERTAINMENT /C1
- **Recovering Randy** Sunday Inquirer Magazine
- **Job Market** /SECTION J

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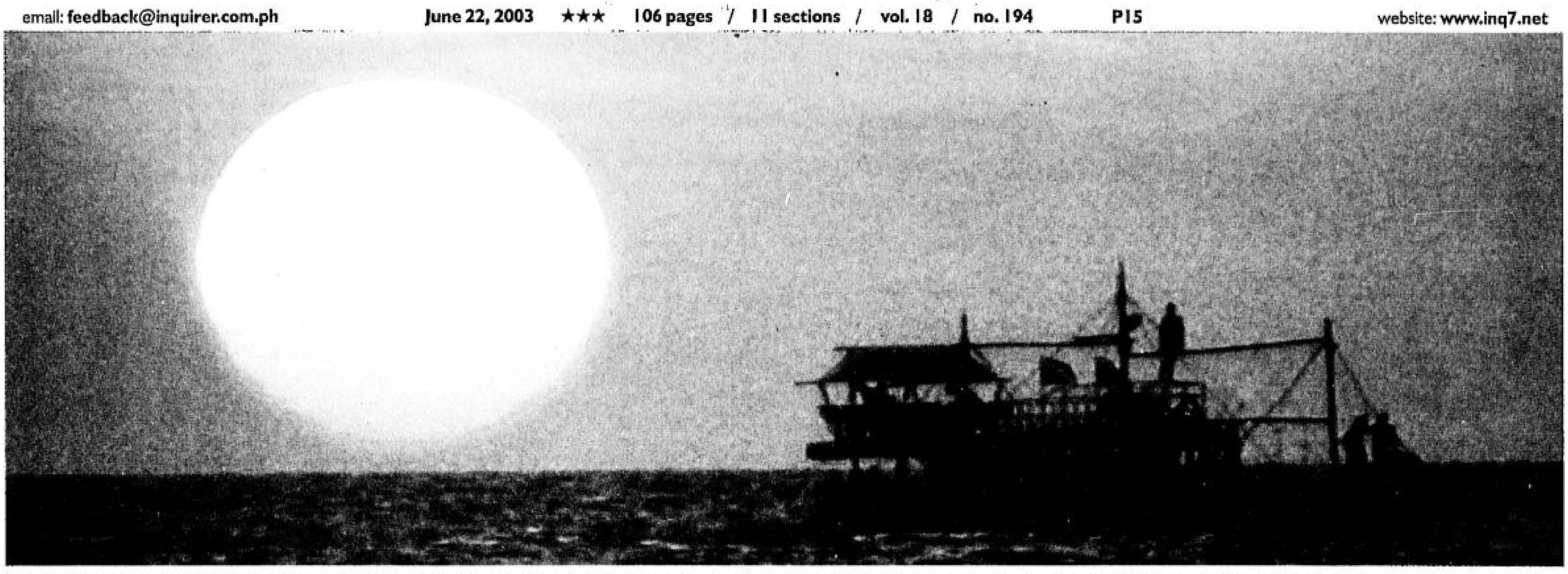

CARESSING sea and sky, the sun sets in Boracay, which is on a spectacular rise as the country's top tourist destination area earning for Aklan province P1 billion from January to April this year. JOAN BONDOC

It's '4 aces' versus drugs

'Dirty Harry' is back with ex-narcotics team to fight familiar foe

By Michael Lim Ubac and Juliet Labog-Javellana

THE "FOUR ACES" will fight an old enemy.

Buoyed by the support extended him by President Macapagal-Arroyo in the renewed war against drugs, Sen. Robert Barbers yesterday re-teamed with ex-Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim, ex-Col. Rey Jaylo and ex-Maj. Lucio Margallo, his former colleagues in the Western Police District and the National Bureau of Investigation.

Dubbed the "four aces," the former anti-narcotics team—also former members of Manila's Finest and, with Lim as their leader, who went after drug syndicates in the early 1990s—met at the coffee shop of the Hyatt Hotel in Pasay City to plan their course of action.

"We are not supermen, but we are confident that we can produce tangible results with the help of law enforcement agencies and communities," Barbers, chair of the Senate committee on public order and illegal drugs and principal author of the Comprehensive Drugs Act of 2002, said in an interview with the INQUIRER be-

IT'S/ A19

"WE'RE not supermen ..." says Sen. Robert Barbers as he convenes a power packed powwow over coffee at the Hyatt Hotel. Flanking Barbers (second from right) are Lucio Margallo, Reynaldo Jaylo and Alfredo Lim. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

'Caged' quadruplets released; funds pouring in

By Ben Mose Ebreo
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya—Donations and pledges have poured in to help the poverty-stricken quadruplets of Barangay Quirino in Bagabag town, this province.

A trust account opened in behalf of Mary Joyce (Tingting), Mary Jane (Wengweng), Mary Rose (Jingjing) and Mary Grace (Kringkring) Cerezo started receiving fresh funds on Wednesday.

The INQUIRER reported on Wednesday that the children were being caged and kept out of school by their mother Elizabeth, a 39-year-old widow, to allow her to tend her mini-store, the family's only source of income.

Elain Cantin from Arizona called up the INQUIRER to ask how she could send her donation to the Cerezo family.

Cecille Garcia of Honda Motors in Laguna said her friends wanted to help the 4-year-old quadruplets get free schooling.

Anonymous donors were also inquiring on the children's account number because they wanted to help them.

Nueva Vizcaya Rep. Carlos Padilla said a foreign company pledged to augment the children's funds.

Padilla said Trade Secretary Rizalino Navarro, who is a grandfather of 6-year-old quadruplets (three boys and a girl), promised to help the Cerezo children.

In 2001, Padilla helped raise about P160,000 by soliciting donations through his television program "Crossroads," but most of the money had been spent for the repair of the family's house and to start the mini-store and eatery (*carinderia*).

His office opened a trust account for the quadruplets at the Philippine National Bank branch at the Batasang Pambansa complex in Quezon City.

'CAGED'/ A20

Mission is divine, but priests are all too human

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

LIKE Jesus Christ who was no stranger to temptation, Catholic priests require the utmost in will power and strength to lead the lives that their Church and their flock expect of them.

For one thing, the job requires them to be always on duty. And they must be ready to serve their parishioners' spiritual and sometimes material needs even as they struggle to be true to the vows they have made: to be celibate and to never marry, to follow the dictates of their superiors, and to not seek "worldly" goods for themselves.

Fr. Cyrain Cabueñas of the St. Nicolas Tolentino Parish in Quinapondan, Eastern Samar, said it was unrealistic for the public to expect priests to live like saints.

Cabueñas, 33, conceded that priests had "shortcomings."

MISSION/ A20

JOAN BONDOC

MAGICAL SELLOUT. The fifth book on the boy wizard, 'Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix,' was sold out by noon, Saturday at some Power Books branches. *(Story on Page A2.)*

Pope names temporary replacement for Bacani

By Martin P. Marfil

IT'S ONLY a "temporary measure."

But Pope John Paul II has appointed an "apostolic administrator" for the diocese of Novaliches while the Vatican continues to study the sexual harassment case against Bishop Teodoro Bacani Jr.

Papal Nuncio Archbishop Antonio Franco stressed during a press conference late yesterday that the appointment of Bishop Antonio Tobias of San Fernando, City as the apostolic administrator of Bacani's diocese was only a "temporary measure."

He said the Pope's move was "meant to facilitate better consideration and fair evaluation of all aspects of the situation, without pressure of any kind from any sector in an atmosphere of serenity and impartiality."

The apostolic administrator will be in charge of the day-to-day running of the Novaliches diocese. And even when Bacani returns from his trip abroad, Tobias will continue to run the diocese.

"During this period, the diocese will be run by the apostolic administrator even when Bishop Bacani returns," said a statement released by the Apostolic Nunciature just before Franco's press conference.

Msgr. Robinson Wijesingho, the Papal Nuncio's first secretary, said Bacani was not suspended but would be considered "on leave" from his administrative duties as bishop.

The Apostolic Nunciature statement clarified that Bacani "continues to be the ordinary bishop of Novaliches ... and he has not been prohibited to celebrate the Holy Mass, administer the sacraments or perform other acts proper to priestly and episcopal ministry."

Franco said no deadline has been given for finishing the investigation.

"We have started working and we will continue to work on it," he said.

Franco made the announcement after an hour-long meeting with most of the diocese's 51 priests where they were informed of the Pope's decision. The meeting and the press conference were held at the Good Shepherd Archbishop Shrine in Novaliches, Quezon City.

"The diocese restarts from today ...

POPE/ A20

Palace going full blast on Cha-cha

By Dona Pazzibugan

BEHIND the scenes even as President Macapagal-Arroyo maintains a noncommittal distance, Malacañang has been going full blast in a highly organized manner to amend the Constitution before the end of her term in 2004.

For, if the President sticks to her word and decides not to run, a transition president would be needed until the major change in the form of government—from presidential to parliamentary—is in place.

This according to the President's adviser on special concerns Norberto Gonzales, who said he has been tasked to spend the rest of the year focused on getting the process of Charter change going.

And like the President, Gonzales insisted that the May 2004 presidential elections would be held.

"(But) we need someone who is willing to be a transition president," Gonzales said, otherwise the next chief executive might have an abbreviated term to make way for a shift to a new form of government.

Also indicative that Charter change was of special concern to the Palace was that Gonzales last year assembled a "study group" of about 40 leading constitutionalists to come up with specific amendments to the Charter to be presented to Congress soon.

Camilo Sabio, former president of the Philippine Constitution Association (Philconsa), is one of the coordinators.

For almost a year now, the study group has been meeting twice a month, according to Eric Castillo, executive director of the Center for Strategic Studies which is

PALACE/ A18

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: CHONA GALANG, PDI RESEARCH/06/22/03

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Mostly Cloudy
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Mostly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Mostly Cloudy
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Mostly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Mostly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Mostly Cloudy
Legazpi	Mostly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Mostly Cloudy
Calapan	Mostly Cloudy	Davao	Mostly Cloudy

Harry Potter fans queue at 4:30 a.m. to buy book

UNDETERRED by the steep price tag, scores of people flocked to bookstores to buy copies of the fifth Harry Potter novel on its simultaneous worldwide release yesterday.

Jane Mendoza, a manager of the Power Books chain, said that customers started lining up outside her branch on Pasay Road in Makati as early as 4:30 a.m. (two-and-a-half hours before the official embargo on sales expired).

Power Books stores all over Metro Manila opened their doors at 7 a.m., two hours earlier than usual, to accommodate the demand for "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix."

Mendoza said almost a thousand people had placed advance orders and that she expected stocks to run out by the end of the day.

The early birds—a mix of children and their parents—were offered free coffee and cookies as they waited.

At Power Books Alabang, cashiers wearing peaked witches' hats attended to the customers, many of whom purchased more than one copy.

The hardbound edition sells for P1,345, well above the minimum wage, but avid fans of the boy wizard were not waiting for paperback versions or discounts. *AFP*

MILF: Expect skirmishes

By TJ Burgonio

IT'S back to hostilities.

The Moro Islamic Liberation Front yesterday ruled out any possibility of extending its 20-day unilateral truce which was to end last midnight, saying it would no longer put up with the continuing military offensives in Mindanao.

"We're back to active defense," MILF spokesperson Eid Kabalu said in a phone interview. He said this meant guerrillas were now permitted to launch offensives in retaliation for attacks by government troops. In short, he said, "Expect more skirmishes."

It was too much to expect the MILF to extend the ceasefire, Kabalu added. "We have been placed in the losing end. They've continued their operations."

Murad Ebrahim, MILF military chief, charged that the suspension of military action (Soma) that his group declared had been used by the government to launch strikes against rebel positions.

Lt. Gen. Rodolfo Garcia, AFP vice chief of staff and spokesperson, could not be reached for comment.

The separatist rebels declared a 10-day Soma on June 2 following appeals from Church and civil society groups, which it extended for 10 more days on June 12 in response to an appeal from the Malaysian government.

It was also part of a confidence-building measure, MILF officials said, so peace talks could resume.

President Macapagal-Arroyo rejected the truce, saying the government preferred a permanent ceasefire. She also asked for MILF chair Salamat Hashim to sit at the negotiating table, but was rebuffed.

Kabalu pointed out that the Soma, although it was not reciprocated, helped the MILF achieve certain objectives.

"We proved that we are in control of our men, contrary to the allegations of some government officials," he said, reiterating MILF claims that it never initiated clashes against the military.

The military earlier admitted that clashes were diminished when the secessionists' Soma was declared.

"Also," Kabalu said, "we at least heeded the requests of the Malaysian government, civil society groups, Church leaders, peace advocates and well-meaning individuals. We're satisfied."

But before the ceasefire lapsed, some 27 MILF rebels surrendered to Brig. Gen. Carduzo Luna, commanding general of the Army's 602nd Infantry Brigade, at Camp Lucero in Carmen, North Cotabato, the military said.

On Friday, the 27 rebels led by Cmdr. Hashim Sapalon of the 203rd Brigade, 2nd Field Division of the MILF's Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces, also yielded two 60-mm mortars, two M14 rifles, three Garand rifles, one M-79 grenade launcher, one Carbine and three magazine clips.

"They could no longer endure the atrocities committed against soldiers and civilians as well," said Lt. Col. Jose Kakilala, Army spokesperson.

Resume talks

Justice Secretary Simeon Datumanong also yesterday said he foresaw prolonged problems unless government and MILF negotiators resumed peace talks at the soonest possible time.

"The longer (the situation) lasts, the more problems may arise," said Datumanong, a veteran negotiator who helped broker a government peace accord in 1996 with another Muslim group, the Moro National Liberation Front.

A native of Maguindanao, home to Salamat, Datumanong was handpicked by the President to serve as adviser to the government panel, now chaired by Secretary Eduardo Ermita.

Waiting for developments

Kabalu said the MILF would still pursue negotiations with the government. "We are only waiting for developments in connection with Malaysia's efforts to get the talks back on track," he told the INQUIRER.

He also said it was not the job of the MILF chair to lead the rebel peace panel, but that Salamat would sign any final peace agreement with the government.

The frequently stalled peace process hit a snag when government withdrew from the negotiating table after a series of attacks on civilian communities allegedly perpetrated by the rebels.

These included the recent twin bombings in Davao City, the assault on Siocon, Zamboanga del Norte and the carnage in Maigo, Lanao del Norte.

In a statement on Thursday, Ms Macapagal said talks would resume "only under conditions where the safety and security of our communities against terrorism and crime are permanently assured."

She stressed that the burden of the assurance lay with the MILF. *With Edwin O. Fernandez and Charlie C. Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau; and reports from AP, AFP*

Why few customs men face raps

By Armand N. Nocum

FOR ALL the rampant smuggling and other illegal activities reportedly going on at the Bureau of Customs, few officials of that agency are facing graft and corruption charges before the Office of the Ombudsman.

This was puzzling to Ombudsman officials, who noted that more officials of the Department of Interior and Local Government—from the barangay level up to mayors and governors—and the DPWH have been hailed to the anti-graft court than the known graft-ridden agency.

"In spite of the high public perception of graft at the agency, few officials of the customs bureau are facing graft charges before our office," Overall Deputy Ombudsman Margarito P. Gervacio Jr. told the INQUIRER in an interview Friday.

"Everybody's talking about corruption there, but few cases are filed. There are several, but not too many," he said.

But another ranking official at the Ombudsman's Office, who asked not to be named, said he believes he has the answer to Gervacio's question.

"*Walang gaano agraviado*(No one is a loser), everybody's happy, except the government," said the official who was reached by the INQUIRER by telephone yesterday. In short, he meant that most everyone shared in the loot over at customs.

Gervacio said the situation like the one existing at the BOC could only be remedied if the public helped the government in pinning down corrupt officials who were clearly living beyond their means.

"Let us report them, not lionize them," he said of the corrupt officials, who are most in demand as wedding sponsors and godparents by those who should know better.

On the initiative of President Macapagal-Arroyo and Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo, Gervacio said the independent prosecutor's office was in the process of training its people—along with officials of other agencies concerned—to undertake a massive lifestyle check of government officials.

He said the training sessions were necessary because corrupt officials have greatly improved their skills in hiding their ill-gotten wealth.

"They have almost perfected the art of cheating," he said of officials who put their ill-gotten properties under the names of their relatives and accomplices.

Are IT schools up to teaching?

WITH COMPUTER schools and colleges proliferating in the country, Rep. Imee Marcos wants to know if they can actually provide the needed training for their students.

In filing a House resolution seeking to investigate the capability of these computer schools, Marcos said there was doubt as to the quality of education being provided by some of the computer schools.

While she acknowledged the increasing demand in the field of information technology from 35,949 job openings in 2001 to 347,976 in 2002, some companies, however, have resorted to "blacklisting" applications from several computer schools due to their lack of technical and communication skills.

In seeking an investigation, Marcos cited the observation of Dr. Jaime Caro, program leader of the Virtual Center for Technology Innovation in Information Technology, who said some schools barely met the minimum requirement of the Revised Policies and Standards for Information Technology Education set by the Commission on Higher Education.

Caro said compliance by some computer schools was only on paper and that instead of teaching required computer subjects such as the principles of operating systems, some schools taught "Windows 95" or, worse, "DOS."

He said the latest programming technologies and methodologies were not being taught in most schools. *Cynthia D. Balana*

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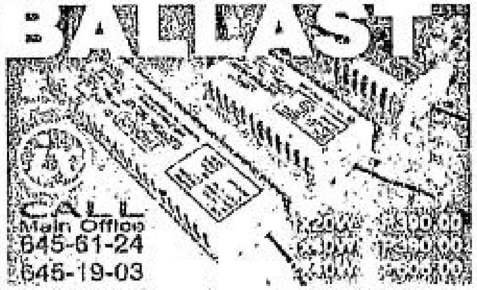
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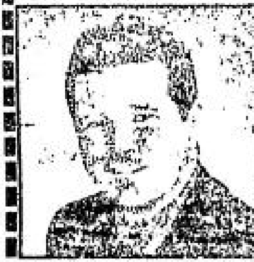
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GMA calls for Suu Kyi's release

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo has added her voice to governments and human rights groups pressing for the immediate release of Aung San Suu Kyi, Burma's pro-democracy campaigner and Nobel Peace prize winner.

"We pray for her safe and very quick release from the custody of the government forces," the President said in a "Kapihan sa RPN" television forum that aired yesterday.

Ms Macapagal reiterated the recent call of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations for Burma's military government to immediately release Suu Kyi and other members of her opposition National League for Democracy. *Juliet L. Javellana*

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PHILIP MORRIS

gOt taste?

Drug convict walks after cops botch evidence

By Philip C. Tubeza

WHILE the administration has declared another crackdown on illegal drugs, the Supreme Court on Tuesday ordered the release from prison of a man convicted of pushing, because of the sloppy handling by police of the evidence against him.

At the same time, the high tribunal warned that the desire to stamp out criminality could not be achieved "at the expense of constitutional rights."

The SC's First Division, chaired by Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., set aside the life sentence on Tony Pedronan of Kias, Baguio City, after the court found there was "reasonable doubt" about his guilt.

Pedronan was arrested in Baguio City by agents of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group-Cordillera Administrative Region in October 1999 after he allegedly tried to sell them four kilos of marijuana bricks.

The SC noted that the police's negligent handling of the marijuana bricks—particularly in changing its wrappings without putting this on record—led to doubts the marijuana presented as evidence in court was the same contraband that was supposedly confiscated from Pedronan.

The court also noted discrepancies in the testimonies of the officers who conducted the buy-bust operation that netted Pedronan.

Investigators could not agree on the amounts and denominations of the money that was used in the transaction. Worse, the SC found, the police did not use the marked money intended for the operation.

First link

"In this case, the prosecution failed to prove the crucial first link in the chain of custody. There is a serious cloud of doubt as to whether the marijuana bricks allegedly seized from the appellant were the same bricks marked and forwarded by the police officers to the crime laboratory for examination and later presented in court for identification," said the 11-page decision penned by Associate Justice Consuelo Ynares-Santiago.

"As Justice Brandeis warned long ago, 'the greatest dangers to liberty lurk in the insidious encroachment by men of zeal, well meaning but without understanding.' Our desire to stamp out criminality cannot be achieved at the expense of constitutional rights," she said.

The SC reversed the decision of the Baguio City Regional Trial Court and ordered Pedronan released.

Court records showed Pedronan was arrested at around 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 22, 1999 at the Bahay Kawayan Restaurant on Abano St., Baguio City.

The CIDG-CAR under Supt. Isagani Nerez reportedly received a tip a man was selling illegal drugs in the restaurant.

SPO2 Frederick Laoang posed as a buyer and introduced himself to Pedronan, who allegedly offered to sell him marijuana for P1,750 a kilo.

But Pedronan had a different version of the incident.

He said he was dining at the restaurant, waiting for the 11 p.m. bus to Manila, when Laoang and another policeman, Modesto Carrera, invited him to their office.

On the way to the CIDG office Carrera frisked him, he said, and took his cash of P8,000.

When they got to the office, Carrera undressed him to look for shabu. When he did not find any, Pedronan asked him to return the money.

After the Baguio RTC convicted him, Pedronan appealed to the SC.

"We agree with the appellant," the SC said. "In the case at bar, several circumstances warrant the appellant's acquittal," the SC ruled.

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Lina decries dropping of drug raps vs suspects

By Jerome Aning

THE DANGEROUS Drugs Board has appealed to the Department of Justice not to exclude from drug charges a Chinese man the board claims was the co-lessee of a Parañaque City mansion that was turned into a shabu laboratory.

The home, located at Hemlock Street, Executive Heights Subdivision, Barangay Sun Valley, was raided by police in November 2002.

In a letter to Justice Secretary Simeon Datumanong, Interior Secretary and DDB chair Jose Lina asked that the case of Kuang Tian Wei and the other suspects be filed in court.

Kuang was the co-lessee of the mansion where policemen allegedly found shabu (methamphetamine hydrochloride), shabu ingredients and laboratory equipment used in producing the illegal drug.

The other lessee, Xusi Bin Ong, who was also the mansion's caretaker, was charged with violation of Sections 8, 11 and 12 of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act or Republic Act 9165.

In a press conference yesterday, Lina scored city prosecutors Oliver Hernandez and Joaquin Escobar for not recommending the filing of charges against Kuang and 14 other suspects, five of whom remain unidentified, in the case.

The prosecutors had cited lack of sufficient evidence to establish a conspiratorial act as the basis for not charging Kuang and the others.

Lina said Kuang and the other suspects, even if they were at large, should not have been dropped from the case.

The suspects appear evading possible prosecution, Lina said. He cited a rule in law that states that the unexplained flight of an accused "may as a general rule be taken into consideration as evidence having tendency to establish his guilt."

The fact that illegal drug ingredients were found in the house should have have been enough probable cause to charge Kuang, he said.

He said RA 9165 considers the presence of ingredients and laboratory equipment as prima facie evidence of dangerous drug manufacture.

Based on this, Lina contended, there exists probable cause to indict Kuang. In merely stating that the evidence against Kuang and the others was insufficient, the prosecutors failed to discuss the merits of the case, he said.

'Lucio Tan still covets airport terminal project'

By Gil C. Cabacungan

FORMER Bureau of Internal Revenue commissioner Liwayway Vinzons Chato, now counsel for the Philippine International Air Terminals Co. Inc., said Friday businessman Lucio Tan continues to covet the Naia Terminal 3 that was built by Piatco.

Tan was one of the six Chinese-Filipino taipans who had formed the Asian Emerging Dragons Corp. that was outbid by Piatco in the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3 project.

He filed graft charges against Piatco officials as well as former transportation secretary Pantaleon Alvarez before the Ombudsman after the Supreme Court ruled last May that the Piatco contract with the government was null and void.

Tan charged transportation and Piatco officials had engaged in a conspiracy to deprive the AEDC of the chance to develop the Terminal 3 project.

Chato said she was "alarmed that executive, legislative and judicial officials have begun falling in line" and Piatco was being made to face charges in the Office of the Ombudsman, which is headed by a former Tan lawyer.

Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo was formerly a member of the Carpio, Villaraza and Cruz law office, Tan's counsel.

Chato said Tan's filing of graft charges against Piatco and Department of Transportation and Communications officials showed he was "really interested in grabbing Naia Terminal 3," which could lead to a conflict of interest since he owns of the national flag carrier, Philippine Airlines.

Chato said AEDC should not complain about having lost the project since Piatco had made the better offer—P17.75 billion against AEDC's P135 million guaranteed payment in 27 years—and it had higher equity, P650 million versus AEDC's P160 million.

Piatco said yesterday the government, through the terms of Presidents Ramos, Estrada and Macapagal, had assured the consortium it was implementing the Naia Terminal 3 project in accordance with law.

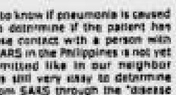
Piatco legal counsel Frank Chavez said Piatco and its officers relied in good faith on such assurances coming from government officials.

STOP SARS ATTACK

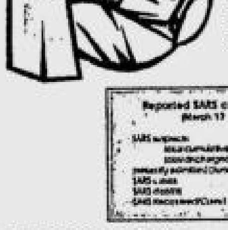
DOH OFFICIAL ADVISORY

SUNDAY 22 June 2003

PNEUMONIA AND SARS



The pneumonia from SARS exhibits the same clinical manifestation as the pneumonia from other diseases present in the country. For example, pneumonia from SARS and measles have the same symptoms - shortness of breath and other breathing difficulties which may lead to death as result of respiratory failure. However, pneumonia from SARS involves a virus and do not respond well to standard antibiotics, which kill only bacteria. Also, the drop in white blood count of SARS patients is typical of viral infections and not bacterial ones.



The best way to know if pneumonia is caused by SARS is to determine if the patient has had direct close contact with a person with SARS. Since SARS in the Philippines is not yet widely transmitted like in our neighbor countries, it is still very easy to determine pneumonia from SARS through the "disease surveillance system" that is fully established in the country. All diseases that may create outbreaks or epidemics, i.e measles, polio, hepatitis and others, are being monitored through this system.

Reported SARS cases in the Country
(March 17 - June 20, 2003)

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Q&A:

1. What are Retail Treasury Bonds (RTBs)?

The Retail Treasury Bonds (RTBs) are part of the government's savings mobilization program designed to make government securities available to retail investors. It is issued by the Republic of the Philippines through the Bureau of the Treasury. This issue of the RTBs will have a maturity of 3 and 5 years and an investor may purchase any tenor or a combination thereof. Interest or coupon payments will be paid quarterly compared to the regular Treasury Bonds which are paid semi-annually.

2. Why invest in RTBs?

The RTBs are designed to provide a safe, high-yielding and affordable savings instrument.

RTBs are safe. They are considered practically risk-free because they are direct, unconditional and general obligations of the Republic of the Philippines.

RTBs are high-yielding. Interest rates are superior to typical time deposit rates.

RTBs are affordable. The minimum denomination is only P5,000 and in multiples of P5,000 thereafter.

3. Who can purchase the RTBs?

The *RTBs* aim to cater to retail investors such as individuals, and corporations who are looking for a safe, affordable and high-yielding investment for their savings. In addition, the *RTBs* will also be available for purchase by financial and other institutional investors.

4. Where and when can an investor purchase RTBs?

The *RTBs* will be sold to the public during the Public Offering (PO) which will be announced in major dailies.

The Public Offering is the opportunity given to retail investors to subscribe to the RTBs through LANDBANK and DBP and the accredited Underwriters and Selling Agents.

The terms and conditions applicable to the RTBs as well as copies of the complete documentation will be made available during the Public Offering by each Underwriter and Selling Agent.

5. How does an investor participate in the PO?

Investors may purchase the bonds over the counter from the Underwriter or Selling Agent nearest them, subject to the minimum deposit requirements of each Underwriter and Selling Agent.

They will be required to open a peso deposit account or designate an existing peso account where interest payment and principal redemption of the *RTBs* will be credited.

For corporations, copies of the Board Resolutions authorizing the purchase of RTBs and indicating authorized signatories and specimen signatures shall be required.

6. What is an investor's proof of ownership?

The Underwriters and Selling Agents will sell the RTBs to individuals and other investors on a non-recourse basis through confirmations of outright sale (the "Confirmations of Sale") issued by the Underwriter or Selling Agent. Investors may pick up these Confirmations of Sale a few days after the close of the public offering from the offices of the Underwriter or Selling Agent. In the meantime, an Acknowledgement Receipt will be issued to investors at the time of payment.

No certificate will be issued to bondholders as ownership by individuals and other investors will be registered in electronic form under the BTr's Registry of Scripless Securities.

7. Can an investor still purchase RTBs after the public offering?

After the PO, an investor can buy *RTBs* from the secondary market at prevailing market prices.

8. What are the risks involved in investing in RTBs?

The RTBs are considered having the least credit-risk because they represent the direct and unconditional obligation of the government thereby enjoying the highest certainty of payment. The yield is assured if the investor holds on to the bond until maturity. However, if an investor opts to sell the RTBs in the secondary market prior to its maturity, then it will be subject to interest rate risk depending on the prevailing market rate at the time the RTBs are resold in the secondary market.

9. Where can an investor trade his RTBs?

Investors can sell their *RTBs* to the Underwriter/ Selling Agent from which the RTBs were originally purchased subject to prevailing market rates.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, June 22, 2003
The Body and Blood of Christ

1st Reading: Ex 24:3-8

Moses came and told the people all the words of Yahweh and all his laws. The people replied with one voice: "Everything that Yahweh has said, we shall do."

Moses wrote down all the words of Yahweh, then rose early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain with twelve raised stones for the twelve tribes of Israel.

He then sent young men from among the sons of Israel to offer burnt offerings and sacrifice bullocks as peace offerings to Yahweh.

And Moses took half the blood and put it in basins; and with the other half of the blood he sprinkled the altar.

He then took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. They said, "All that Yahweh said we shall do and obey."

Moses then took the blood and sprinkled it on the people saying, "Here is the blood of the covenant that Yahweh has made with you in accordance with all these words."

2nd Reading: Heb 9:11-15

Christ has appeared as the high priest with regard to the good things of these new times. He passed through a sanctuary more noble and perfect, not made by hands, that is, not created. He did not take with himself the blood of goats and bulls but his own blood, when he entered once and for all into this sanctuary after obtaining definitive redemption. If the sprinkling of people defiled by sin with the blood of goats and bulls or with the ashes of a heifer provides them with exterior cleanness and holiness, how much more will it be with the blood of Christ? He, moved by the eternal Spirit, offered himself as an unblemished victim to God and his blood cleanses us from dead works, so that we may serve the living God.

So Christ is the mediator of a new covenant or testament. His death made atonement for the sins committed under the old testament, and the promise is handed over to all who are called to the everlasting inheritance.

Gospel: Mk 14:12-16, 22-26

On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the day when the Passover Lamb was killed, the disciples asked him, "Where would you have us go to prepare the Passover meal for you?"

So Jesus sent two of his disciples with these instructions, "Go into the city and there a man will come to you carrying a jar of water. Follow him to the house he enters and say to the owner, 'The Master says: Where is the room where I may eat the Passover meal with my disciples?' Then he will show you a large room upstairs, already arranged and furnished. There you will prepare for us." The disciples went off. When they reached the city, they found everything just as Jesus had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. And he said, "Take this, it is my body." Then he took a cup and after he had given thanks, passed it to them and they all drank from it. And he said, "This is my blood, the blood of the Covenant, which is to be poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not taste the fruit of the vine again until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God."

After singing psalms of praise, they went out to the Hill of Olives.

Commentary

A wandering preacher until the end, Jesus had no house of his own where to eat the Passover meal. He and his disciples used a borrowed room to celebrate this Jewish family feast. He had prearranged everything, acting now as a host instead of the guest he had always been. He served the traditional sacrificial lamb but surprised his disciples with another sacrificial food and drink: the bread which is his body and the wine which is his blood. In the Eucharistic celebration we are welcomed into the family of Jesus. There we joyfully share in the table of the blessings of the new covenant. The feast cost much—the life of the Son of God. We can only thank God "for counting us worthy" to participate in such a banquet.

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For jumping gun, SC bars new lawyer from practicing

By Philip C. Tubeza

EDWIN L. Rana successfully passed the 2000 bar exams but in his enthusiasm to be a lawyer, he lost his chance to practice.

This was because the Supreme Court found out that Rana had begun lawyering even before he could sign the Roll of Attorneys.

The Supreme Court barred Rana from becoming a member of the Philippine Bar after it determined that he had acted as counsel of the candidates for mayor and vice mayor of Mandaon, Masbate, during the May 2001 elections.

He was the "lawyer" of the administration's Reporma LM-PPC coalition in Mandaon and for this Associate Justice Antonio Carpio castigated him in an en banc SC decision on Wednesday.

"A bar candidate does not acquire the right to practice law simply by passing the bar examinations. The practice of law is a privilege that can be withheld even from one who has passed the bar examinations, if the person seeking admission had practiced law without a license," said the 12-page decision penned by Carpio.

"Verily, respondent was engaged in the practice of law when he appeared before the MBEC (Municipal Board of Election Canvassers) and filed various pleadings, without license to do so. Evidence clearly supports the charge of unauthorized practice of law. (Rana) called himself 'counsel' knowing fully well that he was not a member of the bar. Having held himself out as 'counsel' knowing that he had no authority to practice law, respondent has shown moral unfitness to be a member of the Philippine Bar," Carpio said.

Rana's predicament camé about after a Donna Marie Aguirre filed a complaint before the Supreme Court. Rana claimed that the complaint was politically motivated because Aguirre was a daughter of the losing candidate for mayor of Mandaon.

Aguirre's complaint came a day before the court allowed Rana to take his oath as a member of the bar on May 22, 2001 at the Philippine International Convention Center.

However, the SC ruled that Rana could not sign the Roll of Attorneys pending resolution of the charge against him.

"Passing the bar is not the only qualification to become an attorney-at-law. Respondent should know that two essential requisites for becoming a lawyer still had to be performed, namely, his lawyer's oath to be administered by this Court and his signature in the Roll of Attorneys," Carpio said.

The Court found out that even before he took his oath on May 22, 2001, Rana had acted as counsel for Mandaon vice mayoralty candidate George Bunan.

"In the pleading entitled Formal Objection to the Inclusion in the Canvassing of Votes in Some Precincts for the Office of Vice-Mayor dated 19 May 2001, respondent signed as `counsel for George Bunan,'" Carpio said.

"Bunan himself wrote the MBEC on 14 May 2001 that he had 'authorized Atty. Edwin L. Rana as his counsel to represent him' before the MBEC and similar bodies," Carpio added.

It also noted that even Mandaon mayoralty candidate Emily Estipona-Hao "retained" Rana as her counsel also on May 14, 2001.

BIRTHDAY BOY. Former Ilocos Sur governor Luis "Chavit" Singson attends to his luncheon guests during his birthday bash in Vigan, from right, President Macapagal-Arroyo, Ilocos Sur Gov. Victor Savellano and Ilocos Norte Gov. Ferdinand Marcos Jr., back to camera. LEONCIO G. BALBIN JR.

US judge lifts stay in Marcos case

HONOLULU—A federal judge has lifted an order that had stalled lawyers seeking to recover $40 million in assets of the late President Ferdinand Marcos, saying he wanted guidance from the 9th United States Circuit Court of Appeals on how to proceed.

Lawyers for a class action by thousands of Filipinos who successfully sued the Marcos estate for $2 billion for human rights abuses are trying to have the $40 million released to begin paying the judgment awarded by a Honolulu jury eight years ago.

The 9,539 complainants have not received any money, Sherry Broder, a lawyer for the class action, said Friday.

She said the stay was ordered last fall, after the 9th Circuit Court said it wanted to examine the Philippine judicial system to determine what action, if any, it was taking with respect to Marcos' assets.

The lawyers said the Philippine government had taken no action on the case and had instead sought to have itself dismissed from further US court proceedings.

US District Court Judge Manuel L. Real said he was lifting the stay "so the Court of Appeals can help me in terms of what should be done" and force the issue so that compensation proceedings can begin.

"Eventually, something's going to happen in this court," he said. "Why not now?"

The class suit was filed against the Marcos estate in 1986, the year he was deposed and fled to Hawaii. He died in 1989.

In 1995, a Honolulu jury awarded plaintiffs $2 billion after finding Marcos responsible for summary executions, disappearances and tortures. The judgment has been stalled in court and has grown to about $3.1 billion with interest.

The $40 million is being held in an escrow account because of competing claims of ownership by the Marcos estate, the Philippine government, and the human rights victims.

Victims' lawyers had been trying to get the amount released when the stay halted court proceedings, Broder said.

"We're not giving up," she said. "We will never give up." *AP*

Chavit gets new road for his 62nd birthday

By Leoncio Balbin Jr.
and Frank Cimatu
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BANAYOYO, Ilocos Sur—President Macapagal-Arroyo has "gifted" former Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson with a P304-million road.

On Saturday, Singson's 62nd birthday, the President inaugurated the Santiago-Banayoyo-Lidlidda-San Emilio road, which spans several remote towns in the province.

Singson is the acknowledged "hero" of Edsa 2, which helped install Ms Macapagal's government in early 2001. She has since attended all his birthday celebrations. This year, she arrived at 1 p.m. and stayed for about 45 minutes.

Rehabilitation of the 17.33-km road, which included construction of three bridges, began in May 2001 through loans from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation.

It is part of the ambitious Heritage Highway project, an all-weather regional highway network traversing 15 provinces in the Ilocos, Cordillera, and Cagayan Valley.

Singson, who was recently named presidential adviser for the North Luzon Growth Management Area, said the road would improve transport of agricultural products.

His cousin, Ilocos Sur Rep. Eric Singson, added that farmers would need only 30 minutes to take the same route that used to take them two hours.

Chavit announced that the next priority in the 19-stage highway project were the Sta. Maria-San Emilio-Quirino road in Ilocos Sur and the Besao-Sagada-Bontoc road in Mt. Province. Also up for improvement, he said, were the Bontoc-Banaue-Lagawe-Bagabag road that spanned the Mt. Province, Ifugao and Nueva Vizcaya; and the Banaue-Mayoyao-San Mateo-Cauayan road that ran through Ifugao and Isabela.

Indon cops nab 10 JI members

JAKARTA—Indonesian police said Saturday they had arrested 10 suspected members of Jemaah Islamiyah, the militant Islamic group blamed for last year's Bali bombings.

The men were suspected of being involved in the bombing of a church in the Sumatran city of Medan in 2000 and 20 smaller bombings before that, Chief Detective Lt. Gen. Erwin Mapasseng said.

He said the men's "controller" was Riduan Isamuddin, or Hambali, the alleged ex-operations chief of Jemaah Islamiyah who is still at large. Hambali is believed to be Osama bin Laden's point man in Southeast Asia.

Hambali is alleged to have ordered other members of JI to carry out the bombings of two nightclubs on Bali island on Oct. 12 in which 202 people, mostly foreign tourists, died.

Thirty-four suspected JI members have been arrested in connection with those bombings. Three are currently on trial in Bali for their alleged involvement. *AP*

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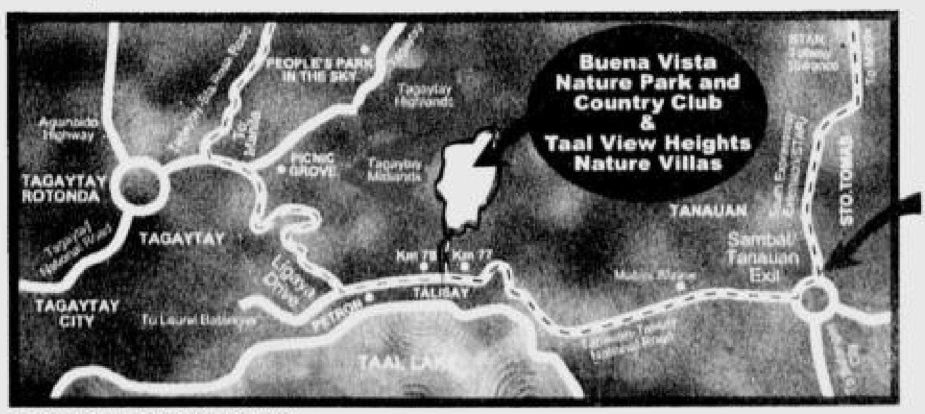

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Teachers won't get pay hike this year

By Carla P. Gomez
PDI Visayas Bureau

BACOLOD CITY—Here's bad news for public school teachers: there will be no salary increase this year.

Juan Miguel Luz, education undersecretary for finance and administration, said on Friday the government could not grant the P3,000 wage hike sought by the Association of Concerned Teachers.

The Department of Education was abiding by a national directive barring increases, except for the police, Luz explained.

"But we are putting in our budget for next year a request for some amount to substantially (settle past) obligations to teachers," he said.

Amounting to P1.6 billion, he said these included unpaid step increments, and cost of living and personnel emergency relief allowances, some of which dated back 10 years.

But the DepEd could only try to pay about P500 million of these next year, Luz said, when it planned to seek a P124 billion budget.

The education official was here for Eskwelahan sang Katawhan Negros Inc.'s assessment and direction-setting workshop.

The DepEd had adopted "innovative" methods to address the shortage of teachers and classrooms and other problems in government schools.

One such method, he said, was through a program called Government Assistance to Students and Teachers in Private Education, which used a "voucher system" to move a percentage of public school students to private schools.

This year, Luz said, the voucher paid by the government to private schools nationwide was P2,500 each for 250,000 secondary students.

"We hope to increase the amount per student to P4,000 next school year, and the number of students covered to 500,000," he added.

Luz said the voucher system was based on the fact that it was cheaper for government to send students to private schools in this way than to build new classrooms and hire additional teachers.

He explained: For every 50 students at P2,500 each, the government spends only P125,000 a year. To keep the same number of students in the public school system, the government will need P375,000 to construct a new school building and P165,000 to pay for a teacher's salary and other operational expenses.

Likewise, Luz said, reforms had been instituted in the method of purchasing textbooks.

Under a new system, he said, DepEd had bought textbooks at P35 to P45 each, compared to the field prices of as much as P150 to P200.

Last year, 20,000 new teaching positions were opened in public schools. This year, Luz said, no new posts were added to the existing 450,000.

Even so, he said, 9,600 posts would soon be vacated by retirees, and that these items would be moved to congested schools that need more teachers.

Gov't looks to OFWs to build schools

By Martin P. Marfil

OVERSEAS Filipino workers, consistently credited for propping up the faltering economy, will again be enlisted to help their country.

According to Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas, the cash-strapped government is planning to ask 12,000 overseas Filipino associations to finance the construction of 10,000 school buildings.

The buildings, Sto. Tomas said, would translate to 20,000 classrooms, half of what the country needs this year.

She said the Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Education and Department of Labor and Employment and the Filipino-Chinese Chamber of Commerce were set to sign a Memorandum of Agreement for the delivery of the 10,000 buildings from OFW communities "between now and next year."

Cost of each building, which will have two classrooms and a toilet, is estimated at $7,000, or P371,000.

This is much lower than previous estimates of the Department of Public Works and Highways at P375,000 per classroom, or P700,000 per building.

Sites will be provided by local governments.

"Our goal before the year ends is 4,000 (buildings), and by next year, 10,000," Sto Tomas said.

She noted that 90 percent of the "very limited" education budget went to salaries, leaving only 10 percent for purchase of books and construction of classrooms.

The fund-raising campaign will be initiated by the foreign affairs and labor departments through attachés and ambassadors.

Collections will be placed in a trust fund with the national treasury and will be disbursed by an inter-agency committee composed of the heads of the foreign affairs, labor and education departments.

Asked how the funds would be protected, Sto. Tomas merely said their reputations were at stake. If anything happened to the money, she said, graft charges could always be filed.

The Labor chief recounted that the possibility of tapping OFWs for the project came up during talks with migrant groups.

UP should have own income, says Drilon

SAYING the University of the Philippines should not have to beg for funds from the national government, Senate President Franklin Drilon yesterday pushed for amending the UP Charter to allow it to generate its own income.

Drilon said the move to change the "terribly outmoded" charter, which had been enacted in 1908, was gaining ground in the Senate after the committee on education unanimously passed Senate Bill 2587, which authorizes the state university to generate income from its idle lands.

In a speech read for him at the Bahay ng Alumni at the UP, where he was conferred the "Most Oustanding Alumnus" award by the UP Alumni Association, Drilon said, "The times call for a review of the charter to ensure that UP will be more responsive and sensitive to the needs of the people in these modern times," he said.

Sen. Francis Pangilinan, who chairs the 15-member Senate committee on education, arts and culture, is the principal sponsor of the bill.

UP students and employees said the provision may lead to the "commercialization of education," and eventually to the sale of UP to private companies. *Michael Lim Ubac*

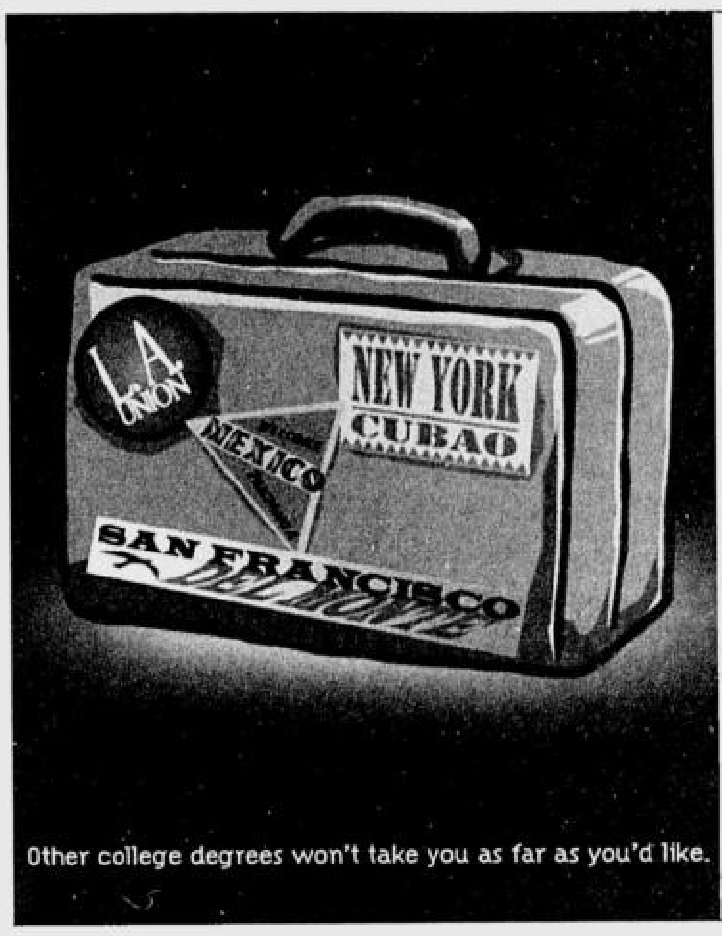
Group cares for elderly religious

WHEN an elderly person gets sick, he usually relies on his own personal resources, his medical insurance, or his family to help take care of him. But when a priest or nun gets sick, who takes care of them?

This is where the Messages from Heaven Foundation Inc., a private non-profit foundation registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, comes in. Founded by Dr. Teresa Bitanga Valeros, Ph.D, the foundation has a health care apostolate, particularly with regard to the elderly religious.

Priests, brothers and nuns from the various religious orders are the main beneficiaries of donations received from patrons and sponsors, most of whom were themselves beneficiaries of the foundation's health care program.

Donations for the care of elderly religious may be made through tel. nos. 807-1982 or 807-2267.



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Trial balloon

EDITORIALS

MALACAÑANG has launched yet another 90-day war, this time on illegal drugs. But if the enemy is a full-blown threat—as the Palace says it is, and as we have reason to believe—why entrust the campaign to a part-time general? The President's informal designation of Sen. Robert Barbers as the country's new anti-drugs czar doesn't make any sense—except as a political gambit.

In a political horizon filled with trial balloons, Barbers' curious appointment is the biggest, the most filled with hot air, since businessman Danding Cojuangco's surprise appearance as captain of Barangay Ginebra.

From our vantage point, we see Barbers' new assignment as designed to do one thing: float his prospective candidacy for the vice presidency. Whether President Macapagal-Arroyo will contest the May 2004 elections, or the ruling party Lakas-CMD will field another standard-bearer, the administration will seek to own the law-and-order agenda. One way to do that may be to get the loyal Barbers, an ex-police colonel and a former interior secretary, to lead the charge in the anti-drugs offensive.

All this is unfortunate. The illegal drugs menace is a social cancer that eats away at the body politic. It has not only wreaked havoc on the lives of millions of Filipinos; it also corrupts policeman and prosecutor, poll inspector and legislator, local government official and judge.

The campaign, therefore, is overdue. But like many other initiatives of the Macapagal administration, it has been needlessly but fatally compromised. Last Friday, Presidential Spokesperson Ignacio Bunye clarified that Barbers was not about to receive a formal appointment. Bunye said Barbers already had "oversight powers" over the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, by virtue of his chairmanship of the Senate committee on public order and illegal drugs. To drive his point home, Bunye said Anselmo Avenido Jr., the PDEA chief, "was actually instructed to make a courtesy call on the senator."

If the nature of the drug agency's relationship to a sitting senator can be resolved through a mere courtesy call, and Barbers already exercises the powers he needs to oversee the agency, the fuss over his appointment as anti-drug czar is much ado over nothing—a political sideshow.

But apparently Malacañang wanted something else originally: for Barbers to serve as senator and at the same time as lead executive in the anti-drugs campaign. This would give the campaign the high visibility it needs, and also position the popular Barbers as a can-do candidate for 2004. But Sen. Rodolfo Biazon, among many others, rightly called attention to the separation-of-powers doctrine which the appointment violates. "How can a legislator perform an executive function?" Biazon asked.

The administration's subsequent downscaling of Barbers' role is an unnecessary retreat, in the same week it should have pressed the attack.

Chinese pin

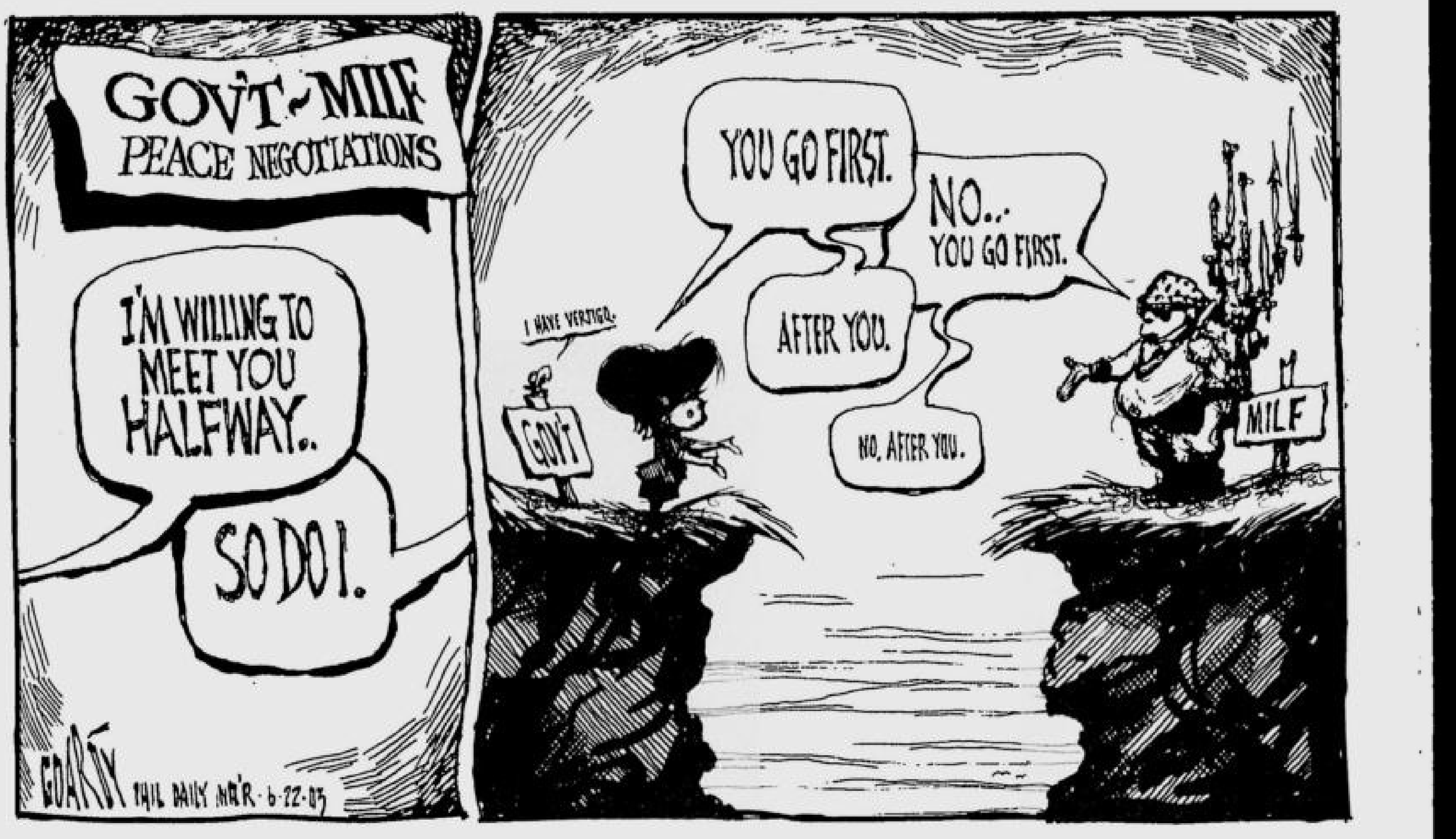
A MEASURE of the true scale of the illegal drugs problem lies in the Chinese connection.

"We can trace the root of our drug problems all the way to the Great Wall," Rep. Juan Miguel Zubiri said last Friday. The vice chair of the House committee on illegal drugs backed up his too-clever-by-half sound bite with the power of statistics.

Zubiri said that at least 60 percent of the shabu available on the streets is sourced from China. Between 1998 and 2001, some 64 percent of the 2.9 tons of shabu confiscated by the government was seized from Chinese nationals. Of the 295 foreigners arrested for drug trafficking between 1998 and 2002, some 204, or 69 percent, were Chinese. He also noted that most "technicians" in the country's shabu laboratories were Chinese nationals.

Another clever sound bite bookended the statistical roll call: "Like many of the things Filipinos buy, shabu is a made-in-China product."

Despite the obvious wordplay, Zubiri has pushed the debate over anti-drugs policy forward. Given the Chinese connection, part of the solution to the problem must be tighter coordination, not only between Malacañang and the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, but also between Manila and Beijing.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Quality education

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

THE BEGINNING of the new schoolyear focuses interest on the meaning of the constitutional provision that "the State shall promote and protect the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all." (Art. XIV, Sec. 1)

This was the subject of the National Medical Admission Test required by the Department of Education for enrollment in the medical schools, which were then unable to accommodate all their applicants. Part of the rule was that any person who flunked the test three times would be disqualified from taking it again and would thus be forever barred from any medical school in the country.

X, who shall be nameless here, supposedly flunked the test three times and was not allowed to try again. He thereupon went to the regional trial court, where he claimed the NMAT deprived him of the quality education guaranteed by the Constitution to all citizens. The trial court sustained him and declared the NMAT unconstitutional. The DECS disagreed however, and appealed to the Supreme Court, where the case was raffled to me.

Verification of the facts with the DECS revealed that X had flunked the test not only thrice but five times. Why he was allowed to take two more tests (which he also failed) is immaterial here. The basic question was whether or not the NMAT was a valid requirement or an illegal impediment to a person's legitimate ambition.

The Court did not need to mull the question long. We decided that the NMAT requirement was a valid exercise of the police power, especially at that time when there was a dearth of medical schools. Preference in enrollment should be given to applicants with suitable qualifications for the medical course. Those unfit should not insist on being similarly accepted.

The right to quality education does not entitle a person to enroll in any course he sees fit. The student must show that he has the potential to succeed in that course. He may have the interest, but that is not enough and may even be untenable. He may want with all his heart to be a doctor but his talents may lie in other endeavors.

Our decision sustaining the NMAT did not dismiss X as a total incompetent. We merely said he had not shown the preparation to be a good doctor but also stressed that he could be better and possibly even brilliant in another calling. It was for that other course that he would be entitled to quality education.

As the Supreme Court put it in Dept. of Education v. San Diego, 180 SCRA 533:

"While every person is entitled to aspire to be a doctor, he does not have a constitutional right to be a doctor. This is true of any other calling in which the public interest is involved, and the closer the link, the longer the bridge to one's ambition. The State has the responsibility to harness its human resources and to see to it that they are not dissipated or, no less worse, not used at all. These resources must be applied in a manner that will best promote the common good while also giving the individual a sense of satisfaction.

"A person cannot insist on being a physician if he will be a menace to his patients. If one who wants to be a lawyer may prove better as a plumber, he should be so advised. Of course, he may not be forced to be a plumber, but on the other hand he may not force his entry into the bar. By the same token, a student who has demonstrated promise as a pianist cannot be shunted aside to take a course in nursing, however appropriate this career may be for others.

"The private respondent must yield to the challenged rule and give way to those better prepared. Where even those who have qualified may still not be accommodated in our already crowded medical schools, there is all the more reason to bar those who have been tested and found wanting.

"The Court feels that it is not enough to simply invoke the right to quality education; one must show that he is entitled to it because of his preparation and promise. The private respondent has failed the NMAT *five* times. While his persistence is noteworthy, to say the least, it is certainly misplaced, like a hopeless love."

As a law professor for more than 40 years, I had many occasions to advise some of my students to re-think their ambition and consider transferring to other courses for which they might be better suited. A number of them followed my suggestion, and I hope we were both right. One of them is now a millionaire businessman, and he has lawyers on his payroll.

Finally, let me stress that quality education does not necessarily equate with high tuition fees, impressive school buildings, and wide campuses. What it requires are competent and dedicated teachers, adequate instruction equipment and facilities, and students who want to study and learn.

For always

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY is told about a man who was met by a barking dog. The owner assured him: "Don't worry. Don't you know the proverb that a barking dog does not bite?" The trembling man said: "Yes, I know the proverb. You know the proverb, but, does your dog know the proverb?"

* * *

How often have you heard that the Eucharist is Jesus' Body and Blood (Mk. 14, 12-16), but do we really know the meaning and the significance of this in our lives? Do we really understand this? Do we really appreciate the Eucharist as a dying man's last gift for us? Do we recognize it as His means of being united with us in a special way forever? In many ways, we are like dogs who have no appreciation at all of something of so great a value. It is like putting a precious Picasso painting before a dog. Maybe he will look at it with curiosity, sniff it, urinate on it, and then walk on. Pardon the comparison, but in many ways, it is really disheartening how we ignore and how ignorant we are of the Eucharist at times, priests and laity alike.

* * *

Remember the story about a priest who found out that the microphone was not functioning as he began the Mass? He tapped it, opened his arms and in a loud voice said: "Ah, something wrong with the mike!" And the whole congregation responded in chorus: "And also with you!" For some of us, because the Eucharist is always available, we tend to take it for granted, and often, we are so "automatic" in our responses during the Mass.

* * *

The Mass should be prayed with the heart. It should not be rushed. Love is not rushed. Nor is the Mass just a show. Without the heart, without love, the Mass can end up just a dry function, an entertaining performance, or an empty act.

* * *

I remember how, as a little boy so caught up in TV or play, I once told Mama that I will just pray 10 rosaries at home instead of going to Sunday Mass. Looking back to that experience, I remember what Mama told me: "Jerry, not even 100 rosaries can equal the value of one Mass." I really appreciate Mama for teaching me the value of the Eucharist at an early age. Parents, by your words and the example of your lives, are you teaching your children to really appreciate the Mass?

* * *

The Mass is the highest form of prayer, but do we pray it? Many lay people "attend" Mass and we priests "say" Mass, but, do we pray the Mass? We miss the point when we look at it as an obligation, or as a schedule to be met, and as something to be done and to be done with, fast.

* * *

It is not easy to go to Sunday Mass, and I admire people who go no matter how tired, or how sleepy, or how busy they are. The church may be hot or crowded, the service may be long and boring, the sound system may be hardly audible, but they are there, because they have a date with the Lord. Be assured of God's appreciation and blessings for those who do it religiously and constantly, in His memory.

* * *

The priest is the celebrant of the Mass, but sometimes he becomes the depressant. On the other hand, the priest, instead of becoming the celebrant, could become the celebrity of the Mass. These two extremes must be avoided. Christ should be the center of the Mass. Christ is present in every Mass, but every priest must be aware that he can MIS or REpresent Christ by the way he celebrates the Mass.

* * *

Representing Christ in every Mass is not the burden of the priest alone. The laity, too must cooperate and participate to make the Mass a joyful, prayerful and meaningful celebration. As someone beautifully put it, the word CHRCH is not meaningful because there is no U in it. *Gets mo?*

* * *

Beyond the devotion we have for the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, and the celebration of Christ's sacrifice in every Mass, the Eucharist should lead us to making Christ present in our daily lives. Our love for the Eucharist must not only be devotional, emotional, or sentimental. It must also be real and actual.

* * *

The church, the Body of Christ, is being dealt with heavy punches these days, and a lot of these are, so to say "below the belt." Maybe we need it for our purification, but definitely, the church will survive and come out stronger in the end. We must not lose heart. All our trials should lead us to bend our knees in prayer and humility.

* * *

Today, on the Feast of Corpus Christi, let each one of us ask these questions: Am I helping in building up the Body of Christ? Am I a representative of Christ, one who makes Christ present in the world again? Badly wanted: Men and women who, by their word and example, make Christ present and alive in this world of ours.

* * *

Please say a special prayer for us, your priests, today. We remember you too in our Masses today.

* * *

A Moment with the Lord

Lord, help me to appreciate the Real Presence in the Eucharist, and become your real presence in the world. Amen.

‘My name is Shinseki and I am a soldier’

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

WOODRIDGE, Illinois—The subject of my first INQUIRER column a few months ago was the visit to Manila of Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, the US Army chief of staff. The visit was billed by defense officials as a “traditional courtesy call prior to his retirement next June.” I pointed out that it has never been traditional for US Army chiefs of staff to call on Philippine counterparts before their retirement. There must have been other reasons for the general’s trip, classified, top secret.

Whatever that reason may have been, it was the man himself, his personal background in particular, which caught my attention.

As I mentioned in the column, Shinseki’s grandfather was a Japanese who grew up in Hiroshima and later migrated to Hawaii during the early part of the 20th century working on the pineapple and sugarcane plantations there. His parents were niseis (second generation US-born descendants of Japanese immigrants) and Shinseki himself is a sansei (third generation US-born).

Dec. 7, 1941 changed their lives completely in much the same manner as Sept. 11, 2001 affected the lives of many Arab-Americans. Pearl Harbor made all Japanese-Americans security risks and they were rounded up and thrown into concentration camps losing much of their property and left with few personal belongings.

Eric Shinseki was born under these circumstances.

In 1961, he entered West Point and graduated with the class of 1965. Vietnam would serve as his baptism of fire and here he lost his right foot and part of the lower leg which almost ended his military career. But he stayed on, outfitted with an artificial foot and worked his way up the ranks as a commander of armored units and later an expert in peacekeeping operations.

On June 21, 1999 President Clinton appointed him US Army chief of staff, the first of Japanese ancestry to hold this position and the highest ranking Asian-American in US military history.

Early on in his four-year tour as Army chief, Shinseki decided the Army needed a medium weight fighting unit somewhere between the light and heavy divisions of its combat forces. He created the Stryker Brigade Combat Team, a lethal and mobile force which could be deployed anywhere in the world in four days or less.

* * *

Eleven days ago, Gen. Eric Shinseki, the 34th chief of the US Army, retired from the military service. At farewell ceremonies, before massed Army formations, he began his remarks by saying: “My name is Shinseki and I am a soldier... an American soldier who was born in the midst of World War II, began his service in Vietnam and retires today in the midst of war in Afghanistan and Iraq. Soldiering is an honorable profession and I am privileged to have served every day for the past 38 years as a soldier.”

He then proceeded to thank his former bosses, mentors, friends and fellow soldiers including a Sgt. Ernie Kingcade, “a non-commissioned officer who provided me with the only Officer Basic Course I would receive before going into battle.” (This could mean he was shipped out to Vietnam straight from West Point without undergoing any formal basic officer training.)

Acknowledging the presence of his wife Patty, he praised her selflessness, elegance and courage. “You have seen me at my worst and stuck with me... and you’ve seen me at my best and chuckled in disbelief. Throughout it all, your patience, your balance, your encouragement and your love and support have sustained me. You stood beside my hospital bed for days, helped me learn to walk a second time, enabled me to regain confidence and a sense of direction, helped me reestablish a professional career, moved our children and our household 31 times and always, always, provided great strength when it was needed most. You could have been and done anything you chose... yet you chose to be a soldier’s wife. The profound grace of that decision has blessed me immeasurably.”

Dwelling on the distinction between command and effective leadership, Shinseki explained “that command is about authority, about an appointment to a position... a set of orders granting title. Effective leadership is different. It must be learned and practiced in order for it to rise to the level of art. It has to do with values internalized and the willingness to sacrifice or subordinate all other concerns, for others.” He went on to say, “You must love those you lead before you can be an effective leader. You can certainly command without that sense of commitment but you cannot lead without it; and without leadership, command is a hollow experience... a vacuum often filled with mistrust and arrogance.”

He ended his remarks with the line with which he started, “My name is Shinseki and I am a soldier. God bless all of you and your families. Thank you and goodbye.”

* * *

Shinseki’s tour of duty as chief of staff was marked by clashes with Pentagon officials specifically Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and his deputy, Paul Wolfowitz. One issue had to do with the size of the peacekeeping force required for postwar Iraq. Shinseki went on record mentioning some 200,000 troops, a figure Wolfowitz publicly dismissed as “wildly off the mark.” As things now stand, it would appear that Shinseki was not too far off the mark. Both Rumsfeld and Wolfowitz were no-shows at Shinseki’s last formation.

China has a balancing act in Nokor nuclear issue

NEWS ANALYSIS

Cindy Sui

It’s debatable, however, how much influence China has over Pyongyang

PHNOM PENH—Whether North Korea can be persuaded to abandon its nuclear ambitions and accept US demands for multilateral dialogue depends largely on China, analysts and officials said Thursday.

Asia’s only regional meeting where North Korea is a participant wound up Thursday with little progress on the North Korean nuclear issue, but officials said one hopeful sign emerged: China seems more willing to help.

“China is doing much more than before. It’s very obvious,” said a high-ranking South Korean foreign ministry official dealing with the North Korean issue.

“Before they didn’t do very much. They said they didn’t have much influence over North Korea, which is a lie,” the official who requested anonymity told AFP.

Pyongyang and Washington have been in an eight-month standoff over Washington’s charges that Pyongyang was developing nuclear weapons, with the issue threatening peace on the Korean peninsula and Asia.

This week on the sidelines of the Asean Regional Forum (ARF), China indicated more strongly than before that it was willing to forge talks between the United States and North Korea that would include South Korea and Japan—something that Washington insisted on having and Pyongyang has objected to.

The move, though subtly presented by Beijing, is nonetheless a significant shift in China’s position, the official said.

“China realized the danger of North Korea having nuclear weapons is real and China understands the Bush administration’s strong position, which is totally different from the Clinton administration’s position and after Sept. 11 (2001) it changed even more,” said the official.

Multilateral talks—rather than bilateral talks between Washington and Pyongyang or trilateral talks that would include China—are crucial, Washington, Seoul and Tokyo insist.

The United States does not want to repeat the mistake it made in 1994 by striking a two-way agreement with Pyongyang in which the Stalinist regime agreed not to develop nuclear weapons in exchange for fuel aid, the official said.

Washington said it discovered in October Pyongyang had a nuclear program, and stopped further aid.

“When many parties are involved, they can be witnesses to what North Korea says. It will make it a little harder for North Korea to lie,” the official said.

Experts say China holds the key to convincing Pyongyang to agree to such a multilateral format, but Beijing has a tough balancing act.

Beijing wants a nuclear-free Korean peninsula, but at the same time does not wish to see improved relations between the Koreas and between North Korea and the United States as this would lessen Chinese influence on the Korean peninsula, according to the experts.

“To China, if the US and North Korea can talk amicably, that’s not good for China. China doesn’t want the two of them to fight too hard, but it doesn’t want them not to fight either,” said Hong Kong-based China expert Wu Guoguang.

Beijing is cooperating with the United States because it stands to gain and has gained a lot, including US willingness not to criticize China’s human rights record at the United Nations Human Rights Commission meeting this year—which has been an annual major embarrassment for China, said Wu, from the Chinese University.

It’s debatable, however, how much influence China has over Pyongyang.

China—the largest donor of fuel and food aid to North Korea—has a lot of leverage over the North, South Koreans and Americans believe.

In March, Beijing stopped providing fuel to the North for three days, blaming the interruption on a technical problem in a fuel pipeline.

“It was quite a shock to North Korea. We guessed it involved China trying to send some signal to North Korea. Only naive people think it was an accident,” the official said.

“Maybe they can have another fuel cut,” he said. “Maybe there’s some way for China to send a stronger signal thereby changing North Korea’s attitude.” Following that incident, Pyongyang agreed to hold trilateral talks with the United States and China in April.

But the official warned: “Too much pressure will stimulate North Korea to move in a bad direction. Too little pressure, they will not change at all.” Wu, however, argued China’s influence is not as strong as people think, even though it is the “only hope” because it’s Pyongyang’s strongest ally.

“Pyongyang doesn’t trust Beijing. It knows Beijing is using its influence with Pyongyang to gain bargaining power with the US. So Pyongyang will use Beijing and the US to increase its bargaining power with both countries,” he said. *AFP*

Law and politics

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

AGAINST the majesty of the law, politics appears morally inferior. This is especially true in societies like ours where the quality of politicians often induces in citizens a desire to completely banish politics from their lives.

But even if this could be done, it would not be wise to do so. Politics allows a society to adjust to new times, and to reflect in its laws and institutions changes in its culture and in the character of its members. To kill politics would be to freeze a social order in time.

We need politics, but it “cannot be treated with levity,” the writer Emerson says. Politicians who have been made cynical by their experience at actual lawmaking may sometimes think they can pass the stupidest law if they are able to get the numbers. One Filipino lawmaker was once quoted as saying that in Congress you can get signatures even on toilet paper.

“But the wise know,” Emerson writes, “that foolish legislation is a rope of sand which perishes in the twisting; that the State must follow and not lead the character and progress of the citizen; the strongest usurper is quickly got rid of; and they only who build on Ideas build for eternity; and that the form of government which prevails is the expression of what cultivation exists in the population which permits it.”

It is so for politicians also who may think that the number of votes that won them public office is a rough measure of the liberties they can take with their power. Their power is a “rope of sand” too. It is constantly tested in the twists and turns of public life. Joseph Estrada thought that his popularity gave him a license to flout common standards of decency, just because his voters did not seem to mind the colorfulness of his private life. What he did not seem to appreciate is how much Filipinos needed a leader they could be proud of and respect.

One year into the presidency, Erap mastered the possibilities and trappings of power but not the responsibilities of his office. The public caught glimpses of this on television, and read about the shady company he kept. His unfitness for the position became increasingly visible even to those who initially saw in him a harbinger of a non-elitist order.

But the clincher was the impeachment trial, which the public avidly followed like a political telenovela. One cannot think of a more consciousness-raising event in the media than the impeachment of Estrada. Filipinos are not stupid. Beyond the nuances of legal procedure, they knew what was fair and right. They could tell who was lying and who was telling the truth. They could sense who was resorting to legal maneuver to hide the facts, or to confuse the public.

When the Senate declared a Christmas break in December 2000, the legitimacy of the Estrada presidency was already eroded beyond repair. The right of the incumbent to continue in office was completely in doubt. The public had heard enough. Estrada’s lawyers today argue that President Estrada may have lost his power but not his authority. By our laws, they claim he is still president. On the contrary, I think, Estrada had lost his authority before he actually lost his power, if by authority we mean not just consistency with the law but political legitimacy. The law itself, Emerson reminds us, acquires its life only from the force of living citizens. The competition for the loyalty of that force is what politics is about.

If a significant proportion of the Filipino public had thought that the ouster of Estrada and the succession to the presidency of the vice president on Jan. 20, 2001 was unjust, they would have poured out into the streets and surrounded the usurpers at the Edsa Shrine. They would have done so repeatedly in every plaza of the country until the legitimate president was returned to his office. This was what happened to Hugo Chavez of Venezuela, who was ousted by the upper and middle classes of his country. But unlike Chavez who regained the presidency, Estrada was unable to call upon his constituency to support him.

The poor who voted for him were sorry to see him go, but it was clear they were not prepared to defend his right to remain in office. Edsa III, which happened four months later, was a largely spontaneous event. It was triggered not so much by the poor’s urgent desire to re-install the former president to power, but by the pain they felt at the shabby treatment of a president who at one point had given them hope.

Erap may, for a time, be able to draw upon some urban poor communities in order to periodically launch his own version of people power demonstrations. But it is doubtful if these can ever catalyze a popular movement equal in strength and credibility to the Erap Resign movement. Marcos loyalists kept the memory of the former president they revered by staging mass actions after he was deposed. Their numbers progressively dwindled when he died, though they still show up whenever Imelda makes an appearance before the courts. Without a legitimate cause that an enlightened public can support, Erap’s loyalists will go the same way.

Though we may often feel that in this age of mass democracy, public positions go to the merely popular, and politics has become nothing more than exposure and name-recall, it is well to remind ourselves that the public mind is never static. In the end it is great ideas that prevail, not mere numbers. As Emerson puts it: “A nation of men unanimously bent on freedom or conquest can easily confound the arithmetic of statists, and achieve extravagant actions, out of all proportion to their means.”

* * *

Comments to randolf@pacific.net.ph

Wrong premise on dual citizenship

COMMENTARY

Raul J. Palabrica

EVERY school day, thousands of the Filipino youth all over the country start their classes with a flag ceremony and the recitation of the "Pledge of Allegiance." With raised right hands, they swear to love the Philippines, obey its laws and be good citizens.

The daily recitation is not meant to be a mere play on words or to exercise the students’ vocal cords. It aims to foster the spirit of patriotism among our youth.

But the approved Senate bill on dual citizenship, which seeks to maintain the Philippine citizenship of natural-born Filipinos who have become citizens of other countries, has a different concept of the nature and purpose of an oath of allegiance.

The legislative measure acknowledges that when a Filipino gives up his citizenship in favor of that of another country, he is obliged to take an oath of allegiance to his new country. In the process, he has to renounce his Philippine citizenship.

This requirement of repudiating the original citizenship of an applicant for naturalization is reasonable. It is only fair for the country to which the applicant wants to gain admission to demand that those who seek to enjoy its protection should be loyal and faithful to it. Previous loyalties have to be given up. Citizenship, after all, is a jealous mistress; it does not like competition.

Under the bill, a renunciation of Philippine citizenship that is a part of, or in connection with an oath of allegiance required by a foreign country for purposes of naturalization, “shall not be interpreted as a free, willful and voluntary act of renunciation and therefore will not be a bar to the retention of Philippine citizenship.”

Mere formality

In effect, the bill is saying that the oath of allegiance to another country that a Filipino may take should not be treated seriously. Either he was coerced into taking it or did it only for show. Something like a formality he had to go through and nothing more.

So what does that make of Filipino immigrants who take the oath that will formalize their entry into the political and social stream of other countries? What else but hypocrites!

If the bill is enacted into law, the government will, in effect, declare to the whole world that Filipinos don’t mean it if they declare under oath that they no longer consider themselves citizens of the Philippines and that henceforth they will serve with loyalty their chosen homeland. Another black mark on the already battered image of the Filipinos abroad is in the offing.

In the haste to pass the bill, its authors overlooked the effect of that cavalier treatment of the oath of allegiance to the oath that foreigners must take if they want to become Filipino citizens. Our immigration laws require applicants for naturalization to renounce whatever citizenship they have in favor (solely) of Philippine citizenship.

If the government adopts the principle that the oath of allegiance is not a serious undertaking of the person who takes it, then the Chinese, Indians, Japanese and other foreigners who want to become naturalized Filipinos should not be faulted for thinking along the same lines.

Adverse effect

Since the Philippine government does not put significance on the renunciation of citizenship of a Filipino who takes the oath of allegiance to another country, the Chinese-Filipino, Indian-Filipino or Japanese-Filipino is justified in thinking that he is a Chinese, Indian or Japanese first before he is a Filipino.

With that mind-set, the newly minted Filipino will not suffer pangs of conscience if he invests the money he earned in the Philippines into his former homeland, or sends his children to local schools that use his native land’s system of education, or limits his financial and social circles to his “countrymen.” After all, his renunciation of citizenship ties with his original country is, in the words of the bill, not considered his “free, willful and voluntary act.”

It is common knowledge that many foreigners have taken up Philippine citizenship for reasons of convenience, usually financial, and not because they love our country. The enactment of the dual citizenship bill into law will lead them to think that there is nothing wrong with treating their oath of allegiance as a mere scrap of paper.

It is surprising how the adverse effects of that degenerative statement could have been missed by the authors of the bill, in particular, its principal sponsor, Senate President Franklin Drilon, who once served as justice secretary and had under his supervision the immigration office.

The bill’s proponents think their brainchild will attract wealthy expatriate Filipinos to return to the old country and invest their money in business ventures that will generate more employment and economic activity. This assumes that many of the expatriate Filipinos are multi-millionaires who have the funds to invest their money in Philippine business ventures, and not office personnel, semi-skilled workers or professionals whose earnings are only sufficient to make them lead comfortable lives and, perhaps, send a dollar or two every month to their relatives here.

Expectations

The optimist in me wants to agree with that forecast. But my realistic side feels that dual citizenship will only be taken advantage of by ex-Filipinos to serve their personal interests, period. They will avail of the benefits and privileges it will give them, but will not want to be burdened with the duties and responsibilities that go with citizenship.

Sometime in 1991, as the United States was preparing to invade Kuwait to drive out the Iraqi army that occupied it, I met four young male Filipino-Americans in a college activity I participated in. They stood out in the crowd because of their American accent and distracting behavior.

When I asked why they were in the Philippines, they told me that their parents sent them here to avoid a possible draft into the US military service. They said they would fly out of the country as soon as they get word that it is "safe" to return to their beloved America.

Their stay here had nothing to do with love of country. They just wanted to take advantage of the temporary haven it could provide them. It was a classic case of opportunism.

This could be a portent of things to come when dual citizenship finally becomes legal.

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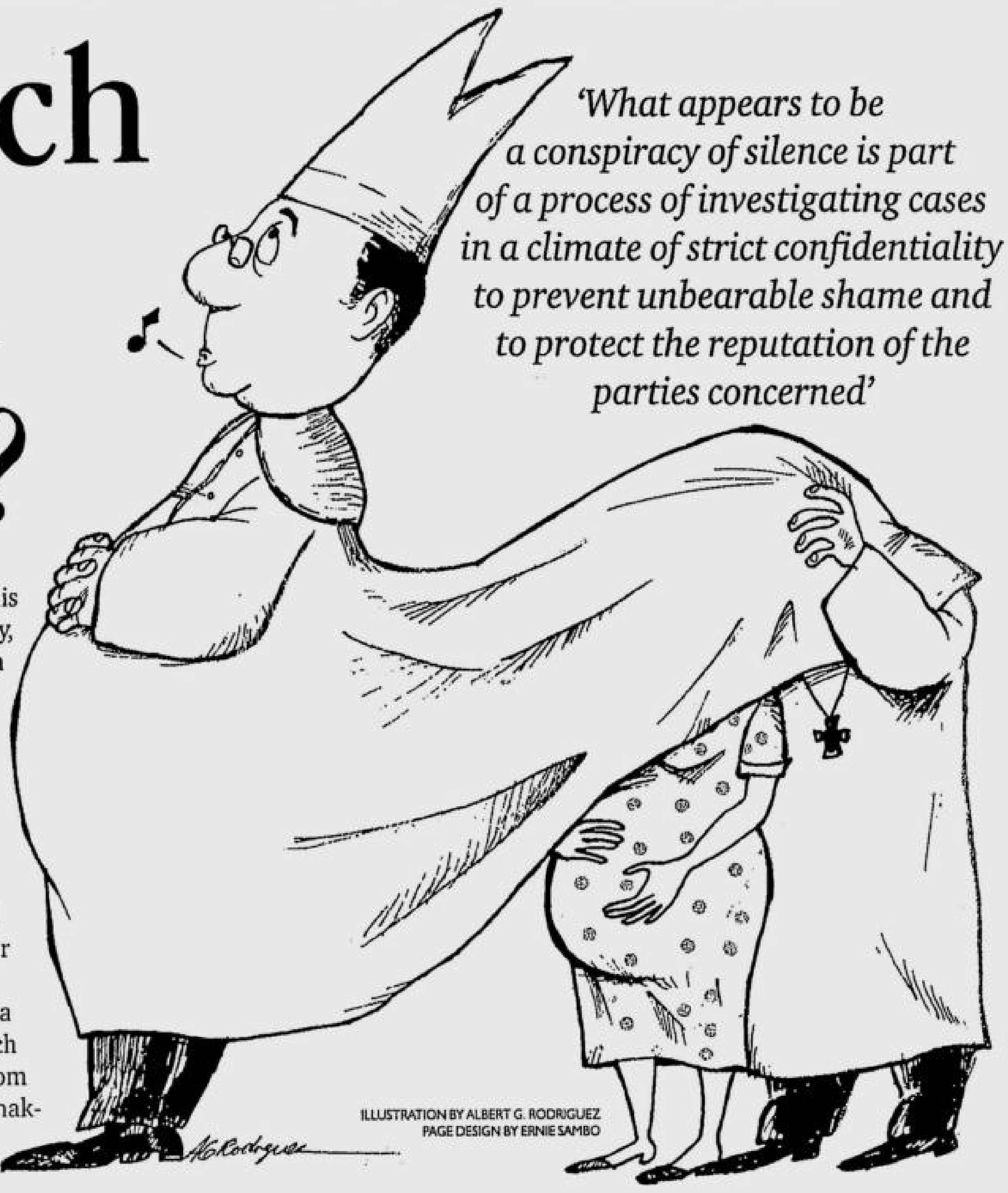
TALK of the TOWN

Please send feedback to
jsarmiento@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

Should Church keep a lid on sex scandals?

> 'What appears to be a conspiracy of silence is part of a process of investigating cases in a climate of strict confidentiality to prevent unbearable shame and to protect the reputation of the parties concerned'



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PAGE DESIGN BY ERNIE SAMBO

MOST sexual offenses men of the cloth commit don't come to light. This is largely due to the culture of silence among victims in the country, where the Church wields strong moral and political influence. When the victims are minors, they usually keep the traumatic experience to themselves. It's just too shameful to come out into the open.

When parents do learn about the molestation, usually long after the incident, they would rather not press charges against the priest, who more often than not, has been transferred to another parish, another diocese or even another country.

When a sexual relationship is consensual, the woman, too, usually keeps silent. But the relationship does not remain secret for long, especially if a child is born. It begins as rumors and then sometimes as blind items in newspaper columns.

Even if the Church investigates sexual offenses allegedly committed by a priest or bishop, the faithful are generally clueless about them. The Church would rather keep the probe under wraps. Details of the offenses are kept from the public and the man of the cloth involved, if he's a bishop, is sent abroad, making people wonder whether the Church is engaged in a cover-up.

'I don't believe the Church is engaged in a cover-up'

By Fr. Amado L. Picardal, CSsR
Professor, St. Alphonsous Theologate
Davao City

THERE is a suspicion that the Church is engaged in a conspiracy of silence over the sexual offenses committed by the clergy and religious.

I don't believe that the leadership of the Church is engaged in a cover-up. What appears to be a conspiracy of silence is actually part of a process of investigating these cases in a climate of strict confidentiality in order to prevent unbearable shame and to protect the reputation of the parties concerned. It is out of compassion that confidentiality is observed.

Any accusation of sexual offense or misconduct against bishops, priests or religious will always be a source of grave scandal. It can damage the reputation not only of those accused but also of those who point the accusing finger. A person accused of sexual misconduct is often presumed guilty until proven innocent. And even when he is exonerated, his reputation may be damaged forever. Even if he is found guilty, he still has a right to his good name. All those involved will have to live with the shame and stigma for the rest of their lives. To prevent this, a policy of confidentiality is necessary. Church officials do not have to announce to the public the cases that are brought up for investigation. They usually observe confidentiality and also offer psychological and material help.

How far can this confidentiality be exercised?

It is impossible to maintain confidentiality, especially when the case involves civil and criminal liabilities such as sexual harassment, rape, pedophilia, etc. When a case is filed in the civil court, then it becomes public and the Church cannot insist on the observance of confidentiality. We will have to let the wheels of justice run its course.

When sanctions are imposed on those found guilty of sexual offense or misconduct, the faithful have a right to know the reasons especially when these are criminal cases. A resignation or dismissal without explanation is not enough.

Investigations and sanctions due to consensual sexual misconduct, which does not involve criminal offense, need not be announced publicly.

Whenever a complaint is filed against any bishop, priest or religious, the presumption of innocence should always be maintained. Those accused should be given the chance to clear their name. Those found guilty should be given the chance to make amends, go through the process of conversion, penance and rehabilitation.

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) is coming up with a Protocol on Sexual Offenses by the Clergy and Religious. According to Archbishop Orlando B. Quevedo, "this will guide Church leaders in following the proper legal (civil law) and canonical (Church law) procedures necessarily dealing with criminal cases as well as with cases of consensual romantic liaisons."

The CBCP has gone through three drafts of the protocol and a fourth draft is being prepared for final consideration and approval at the July 2003 assembly of bishops.

The preparation of this protocol is an indication that the leadership of the Church in the Philippines is addressing seriously the issue of sexual misconduct by clergy and religious.

'Whatever is now covered up will be uncovered and every secret will be made known'—Mt 10:26

By Msgr. Nico P. Bautista
Mass Media Ministry

SHOULD we or should we not? When a person commits a misdemeanor or is involved in a scandal for that matter, the natural tendency is to cover it up. It's just too shameful. Very embarrassing.

Can it be any different when it involves businessmen, players, or institutions? The political will to address the problems behind closed doors and speak in whispers seems to be the order of the day.

The question is: "Should it be this way?"

Those who give an affirmative answer to this query proffer these reasons:

- *"Nakakahiya."* Filipinos put prime value on this "*hiya* syndrome." Save face. If exposed to the public, *"wala na akong mukhang ihaharap."*
- *"Bababa ang paningin ng tao sa akin."* My reputation and public esteem will suffer."
- The scandal will so drive away the members of the religious assembly.
- Be prudent. No talkies.

Those who are negative to the "cover-up" reason out:

- The exposure will serve as a lesson for all and warning to others, *"Huwag tularan."*
- It can be a cleansing process for everyone, *"Magsisi na tayo."*
- It can be the start of the much needed reforms, *"Magbago na tayo."*
- If the offense is also an offense against the law of the land there should be no sacred cows. Let the heavens fall. "Throw the book at those responsible."

Let us turn to the Holy Bible and look for our ultimate answer and ponder on the Word of God and mull over it to discern God's message.

"The street of the city was of pure gold, transparent as glass." (Rev 21:21)

"You must be as cautious as snakes and as gentle as doves." (Mt 10:16)

"So do not be afraid of people. Whatever is now covered up will be uncovered and every secret will be made known." (Mt 10:26)

What I am telling you in the dark you must repeat in broad daylight, and what you have heard in private, you must announce from the housetops." (Mt 10:27)

Need I say anything more about the need for transparency? It's the Lord speaking. Let's tune in.

To parody St. Thomas Moore, "I may be the priest of the Archdiocese, but Christ's first."

'Silence stills rumors'

By Antonio T. Yulo
Luzon Deputy,
Knights of Columbus

SHOULD the Catholic Church continue to keep silent on the sexual misconduct of priests? It is rather a tough question that cannot be answered by a simple yes or no. The question needs some clarification to evoke a correct answer.

If the word "silent" means "doing nothing," then our answer is no. That is, the Church should not keep silent on the sexual misconduct involving priests. But we know the Church is genuinely concerned about the misconduct of some of its priests and that it is working hard, albeit with pain, to achieve the fullness of justice and compassion to the erring priests and their victims (innocent or willing).

If the word "silent" as used in the question means "divulging to the public all the alleged acts of sexual misconduct of priests and with all the personalities involved," our answer is yes. That is, the Catholic Church should keep silent on the sexual misconduct involving its priests. Silence stills rumor, and speech spreads scandals.

But we believe that neither silence nor rumor should obstruct the way of justice. We should speak out fearlessly and responsibly for what is right.

We in the Knights of Columbus believe that our priests have the power granted by Christ in the work for salvation, the power to teach, the power to forgive sin, the power to baptize and incorporate a person into his Body, the power to consecrate his Body and Blood, the power to administer other means of grace. Like what St. Paul said, we regard our priests as Christ's servants entrusted with the mysteries of God.

As Catholics and more so as Knights of Columbus, we deeply sympathize with the suffering of the Catholic Church in connection with the sexual misconduct of some priests.

All the more we need to deepen our faith in our religion and deepen our love for our priests, a great, great majority of whom are truly good ones.

Priests in the news

December 2002. *Fr. Macario Peig Apuya, SVD*, cried when he was acquitted of rape and child abuse charges by Judge Abednego Adre of the Quezon City Regional Trial Court. Apuya was accused of raping his then 15-year-old ward in Vigan, Ilocos Sur in 1997. He was in prison for almost three years.

July 2002. Florida officials issued a warrant for the arrest of *Fr. Polienato Bernabe*, 61, a native of Pangasinan, who had been charged with sexually abusing an 8-year-old girl more than two decades ago in Gulfport, Florida. Under Florida laws, if convicted, Bernabe could face life in prison. Bernabe, a member of the Archdiocese of Lingayen-Dagupan, was a visiting priest who served at the Holy Name Catholic Church in Gulfport and the Holy Family Catholic Church in St. Petersburg in the 1970s and 1980s.

The victim, Melissa M. Price, said Bernabe began abusing her in late 1978 when she was 8. Price, who allowed newspapers to use her name, told investigators that the abuse, which escalated into sexual intercourse, took place hundreds of times at her mother's home in Gulfport. According to the St. Petersburg Times, Bernabe took her on a three-week vacation to the Philippines when she was 12. On her 16th birthday, she said, he gave her a used car but later replaced it with a brand new Volkswagen Cabriolet.

In Cebu City, three former altar boys of the Basilica Minore del Sto. Niño and another youngster wrote Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal, accusing former basilica rector *Fr. Apolinario Mejorada* of sexually abusing them between 1995 and 1998.

About a week later, Mejorada's superiors admitted he was involved in some "transgression" and paid P120,000 in settlement. About a week later, *Fr. Mercurio Montenegro* was accused by a 29-year-old man and more than 30 other altar boys of abusing them from 1987 to 1997. Montenegro, the former parish priest of the town of Cordova on Mactan Island, denied the accusation.

June 2002. A soldier accused *Fr. Eleuterio Carton*, parish priest of Tigbauan, Iloilo, of sexually harassing him in 1996 when he was only 17. The soldier executed an affidavit addressed to Jaro Archbishop Angel Lagdameo. His mother also issued a separate affidavit in support of her son's accusations against the priest. Carton denied the allegations, saying he did not even know the soldier. On Oct. 4, Carton hit back at his accusers by suing them for libel and perjury.

May 2002. A woman sought child support from *Fr. Nicanor Sta. Maria*, who once served as principal of the Don Bosco High School in Makati City. She said she had a relationship lasting close to five years with Sta. Maria while she was working as his secretary.

The alleged sexual abuse of Rita Milla by seven priests in 1983 was in the news when she asked Roger Cardinal Mahoney of Los Angeles to help her find the priest who got her pregnant. The would-be nun earlier said the late *Fr. Santiago Tamayo Jr.* and six other priests sexually abused her when she was 16 years old. She said the diocese tried to cover up the abuse by arranging for her trip to the Philippines to keep her pregnancy a secret. She delivered the baby at the Ilocos Norte Provincial Hospital. She later returned to the United States.

July 1999. Married priest, *Delfin Quijano*, was denied death rites at the St. Therese Parish Church in Lahug, Cebu City reportedly on orders of Cardinal Vidal. Delfin who completed his studies for priesthood at the University of Sto. Tomas was ordained in 1966. He left the priesthood in April 1970 and married lawyer Elsie Bulleccr with whom he had three children.

A sexual harassment case was filed by three students and an instructor of the Cagayan State University against *Fr. Ranhilio Aquino*, CSU vice president for academic affairs. Aquino had filed complaints of irregularities, graft and mismanagement against some university officials being investigated by the House committee on good government. On Feb. 4, 2000, the Ombudsman dismissed the sexual harassment charges against Aquino.

March 1999. *Fr. Paul Tunacao* was told to take a break from his functions as parish priest of Sto. Niño Parish in Pakna-an after the Cebu Archdiocese in-house investigation confirmed rumors that he had taken a wife. Tunacao married a certain Mildred on Jan. 28, 1998 after a relationship that started in 1993. They have three children. Tunacao did not ask for dispensation from Rome and did not inform Cardinal Vidal about his marriage.

In Northern Samar, *Fr. Eugenio Talavera Jr.*, parish priest of Allen, was relieved of his pastoral duties in the Diocese of Catarman in the wake of charges of rape and illegal detention filed against him by his niece on Jan. 14, 1999. Nemia, the daughter of the priest's first cousin, said she was sexually abused between December 1996 and early 1997.

In October 1997, she gave birth to a boy and pointed to the priest as the father. Talavera was arrested by the Catarman police in May but did not spend a minute in jail as he paid the P150,000 bail.

May 1998. *Fr. Hector Canto*, a priest from Iloilo, got married to Cynthia Diamante wearing his cassock. He did not seek dispensation before marrying Diamante, a 24-year-old government engineer. The ceremony was officiated by another priest, *Jesus Siva*, who later disclosed plans to marry his girlfriend. Then Archbishop Alberto Piamonte of Jaro suspended Canto.

PDI Research

The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

US senators agree on Iraq arms probe

WASHINGTON—Top US senators have agreed to broaden their probe into the fate of alleged Iraqi weapons of mass destruction and whether intelligence information about them had been manipulated to justify the war against the government of Saddam Hussein.

But the Republican Chair of the Senate intelligence committee, Pat Roberts, still succeeded Friday in blocking a full-fledged congressional investigation into the brewing controversy that could prove to be damaging to Republicans in the 2004 election campaign.

In fact, the chair and the ranking committee Democrat, Sen. Jay Rockefeller, appeared to disagree even on what to call their joint work, with Roberts pointedly referring to it as a "review" and Rockefeller using the word "inquiry."

But a brief joint statement issued by the lawmakers made clear the probe would go far beyond a mere review of documents from the CIA and other US intelligence agencies that was initially envisaged by Roberts.

Under the accord, the committee would examine among other things "the quantity and quality" of US intelligence on Iraqi weapons of mass destruction programs— and "the objectivity, reasonableness, independence, and accuracy of the judgments reached by the intelligence community."

The lawmakers will also try to find out whether those conclusions "were properly disseminated to policy makers in the executive branch and Congress" and "whether any influence was brought to bear on anyone to shape their analysis to support policy objectives," the statement said.

The US-led invasion of Iraq was launched last March after President George W. Bush insisted that Iraqi chemical, biological and nuclear weapons programs represented an imminent threat.

US Secretary of State Colin Powell told the UN Security Council in February that Iraq had failed to account for hundreds of tonnes of chemical and biological agents.

But nearly six weeks after the fall of Baghdad, the US military and Central Intelligence Agency have failed to discover so much as an ounce of the banned weapons, prompting speculation that in making its case for the war and getting Congress to authorize it, the Bush administration had either used intelligence selectively, or pressured the intelligence community into turning a blind eye on questionable sources.

Critics cite a September 2002 Defense Intelligence Agency report, in which the DIA stated that there was "no reliable information" that Iraq was producing chemical weapons.

They insist the secret assessment was issued as Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld was telling Congress of Iraq's efforts to build up its chemical arsenal.

Vice President Richard Cheney, an ardent advocate of the war, paid repeated visits to CIA headquarters in the run-up to the conflict, a fact that made some wonder whether such attention put implicit pressure on agency analysts. *AFP*

Bush says weapons sites were looted

WASHINGTON—President George W. Bush, trying again to explain the failure to find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, said on Saturday that suspected arms sites had been looted in the waning days of Saddam Hussein's rule.

"For more than a decade, Saddam Hussein went to great lengths to hide his weapons from the world. And in the regime's final days, documents and suspected weapons sites were looted and burned," Bush said in his weekly radio address.

It is believed to be the first time Bush has cited looting to explain the inability of US forces to uncover chemical or biological weapons in Iraq, a US official said.

Bush had previously said weapons may have been destroyed before the war. The US military has been criticized for failing to prevent looting at an Iraqi nuclear facility.

Bush has been widely criticized for misleading the public by asserting that Saddam had stockpiles of unconventional weapons that menaced the world. The allegations were Bush's main justification for bypassing the United Nations and ordering the US-led invasion of Iraq.

"The intelligence services of many nations concluded that he had illegal weapons and the regime refused to provide evidence they had been destroyed," Bush said. "We are determined to discover the true extent of Saddam Hussein's weapons programs, no matter how long it takes."

This week, Bush dismissed questions over his reasons for going to war as the work of "historical revisionists."

In his radio speech, he sought to address problems in post-war Iraq, including attacks on US troops and the slow pace of reconstruction.

"American service members continue to risk their lives to ensure the liberation of Iraq," he said, blaming "dangerous pockets of the old regime" and their "terrorist allies" for the attacks. The US military was combating the threats by hunting down Saddam loyalists and "terrorist organizations." *Reuters*

Saddam alive, says dictator's former aide

WASHINGTON—A top lieutenant to Saddam Hussein has told American interrogators that the Iraqi leader and his two sons survived the US-led war in Iraq and are likely hiding in the country, The New York Times reported Saturday.

Quoting unnamed Defense Department officials, the newspaper said the accuracy of the claims made by Abid Hamad Mahmud, who was arrested in Iraq last Monday, had not been assessed yet.

But the officials said the United States regarded the information as having huge potential significance, and that clandestine American military activity aimed at capturing Saddam and his sons, Uday and Qusay, had increased sharply, the report said.

If Mahmud's account is true, it would be "the most authoritative confirmation that neither Saddam nor his sons were killed in American attacks in March and April," The Times wrote.

Mahmud, who ranked behind only Saddam and his sons in importance in the Iraqi government, has told the interrogators that during the weeks after the war with the United States he spent time in hiding with the former Iraqi leader himself and then fled to Syria with Uday and Qusay, the paper reported.

But the trio was forced to return back to Iraq after Syrian authorities expelled them.

According to The Times, until now, there has never been any credible suggestion that those who fled to Syria might have included Saddam's sons.

The paper said a senior Defense Department official had declined to provide any details about the newly energized search for Saddam and his sons, which others said was being carried out by Task Force 20, a secret military organization that includes Army and Navy counterterrorist personnel. *AFP*

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US poses danger to world for sidelining UN–Mandela

GALWAY, Ireland—Former South African President Nelson Mandela said on Friday the United States posed a danger to the world for sidelining the United Nations to make war on Iraq.

The Nobel peace laureate, in Ireland to open the Special Olympics, strongly criticized US President George W. Bush for circumventing the United Nations in order to overthrow Iraqi President Saddam Hussein by force.

"Any organization, any country, any movement that now decides to sideline the United Nations, that country and its leader are a danger to the world," Mandela said in Galway, where he received an honorary degree a day before opening the games.

"We cannot allow the world to again degenerate into a place where the will of the powerful dominates over all other considerations," he added. "That will surely prove to be a recipe for growing anarchy in world affairs."

Mandela received an honorary doctorate in law from the National University of Ireland before returning to Dublin where he will join a star-studded cast to open the 11th Special Olympics for athletes with learning disabilities.

Mandela, who said South Africans strongly identified with Ireland's struggle to end colonial rule, told an audience of 1,100 that he appreciated Irish support for South Africa's struggle to end apartheid racial separation.

Now 84, and walking with difficulty with the aid of a cane, Mandela spent 27 years in prison, much of that on Robben Island near Cape Town, in solitary confinement.

He told his Irish audience he had "an appreciation for your support to our struggle at a time when it was not fashionable to demonstrate such support."

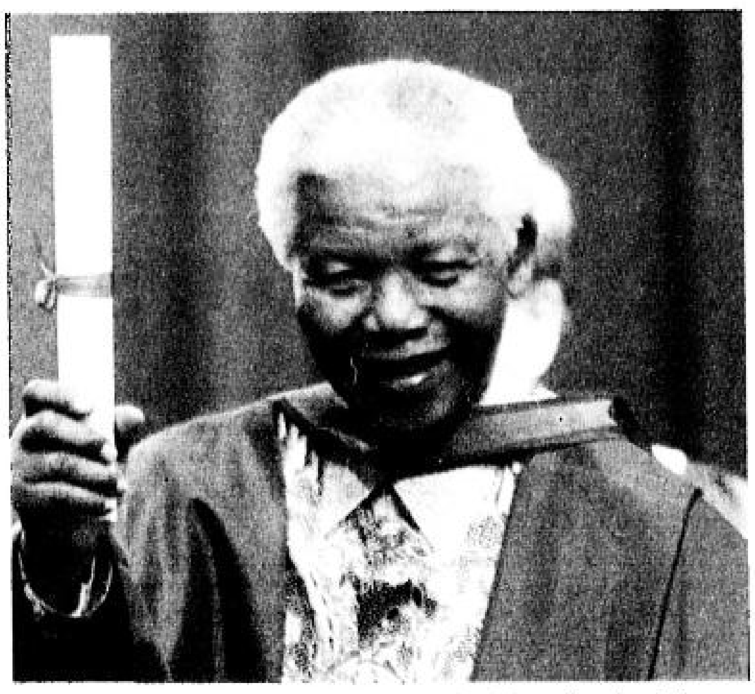
But Mandela suggested Ireland had failed to show as much backbone in standing up to the US war effort in Iraq, which relied heavily on troop transports stopping over at Shannon airport in western Ireland.

Ireland also is a European base for many US multinational companies.

"You are keeping quiet. You are afraid of this country (the United States) and its leader," he said.

The 30-minute speech was met by thunderous and sustained applause by an audience of academics and invited guests and by the general public watching nearby.

"It's great to see him... he fought for his rights," said Claire Rabbitte, who stood on one of the campus laneways to catch a glimpse of Mandela, wearing academic robes, as he was driven to the hall in an open buggy. *Reuters*



FORMER South African President Nelson Mandela smiles after being conferred with an Honorary Doctorate of Laws at University of Galway, Ireland, June 20. Mandela and boxing legend Muhammad Ali will join performers such as U2 and the Corrs for the opening ceremony at the Special Olympics World Games in Dublin. REUTERS

Suu Kyi's dire jail conditions spark outrage

BANGKOK—Revelations that Burma democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi is being held at Rangoon's notorious Insein jail without even a change of clothes since she was detained three weeks ago sparked outrage Friday.

Britain's junior foreign minister for Asia Mike O'Brien said in London Thursday that he was "appalled" to learn that the Nobel peace laureate was being held "in a two-room hut" at Insein on the outskirts of Rangoon.

"I understand that she continues to wear the clothes in which she was arrested," he said in a statement released on her 58th birthday.

Burma's ruling generals said Suu Kyi was put under temporary "protective custody" at an undisclosed location after May 30 clashes which broke out during a political tour of northern Burma.

But O'Brien said he was disturbed to learn that she was in fact being held under a draconian internal security law which allows for her detention without access to family or lawyers for a year, renewable up to six years.

"This completely discredits the regime's claim that she is being held in 'protective custody'," he said.

In a statement released Friday, Amnesty International expressed concern over the detention conditions surrounding Suu Kyi, a slightly built woman who is noted for her impeccable appearance.

"Despite claims that Suu Kyi is being held for her protection, she is being held under provisions that fail to protect her basic human rights and deem her a threat to state sovereignty and security," it said.

The military government's decision to put Suu Kyi in jail for the first time since her pro-democracy struggle began in 1988 represents a major escalation in Burma's political tensions, analysts said.

Diplomats in Rangoon said the generals were forcing Suu Kyi to endure extremely harsh conditions, in hot conditions at the start of the rainy season. *AFP*

Illegal migrants' boat sinks; 12 dead, 197 missing

TUNIS—Twelve would-be illegal immigrants have drowned, 41 have been rescued and 197 are missing after their boat sank Friday off the eastern coast of Tunisia, according to official figures.

A total of 250 passengers from North and Sub-Saharan Africa had boarded the vessel somewhere to the east of Tunisia, likely Libya, and were headed for Italy when the boat sank in international waters, some 60 nautical miles southeast off Sfax on Tunisia's eastern coast, the official TAP news agency said.

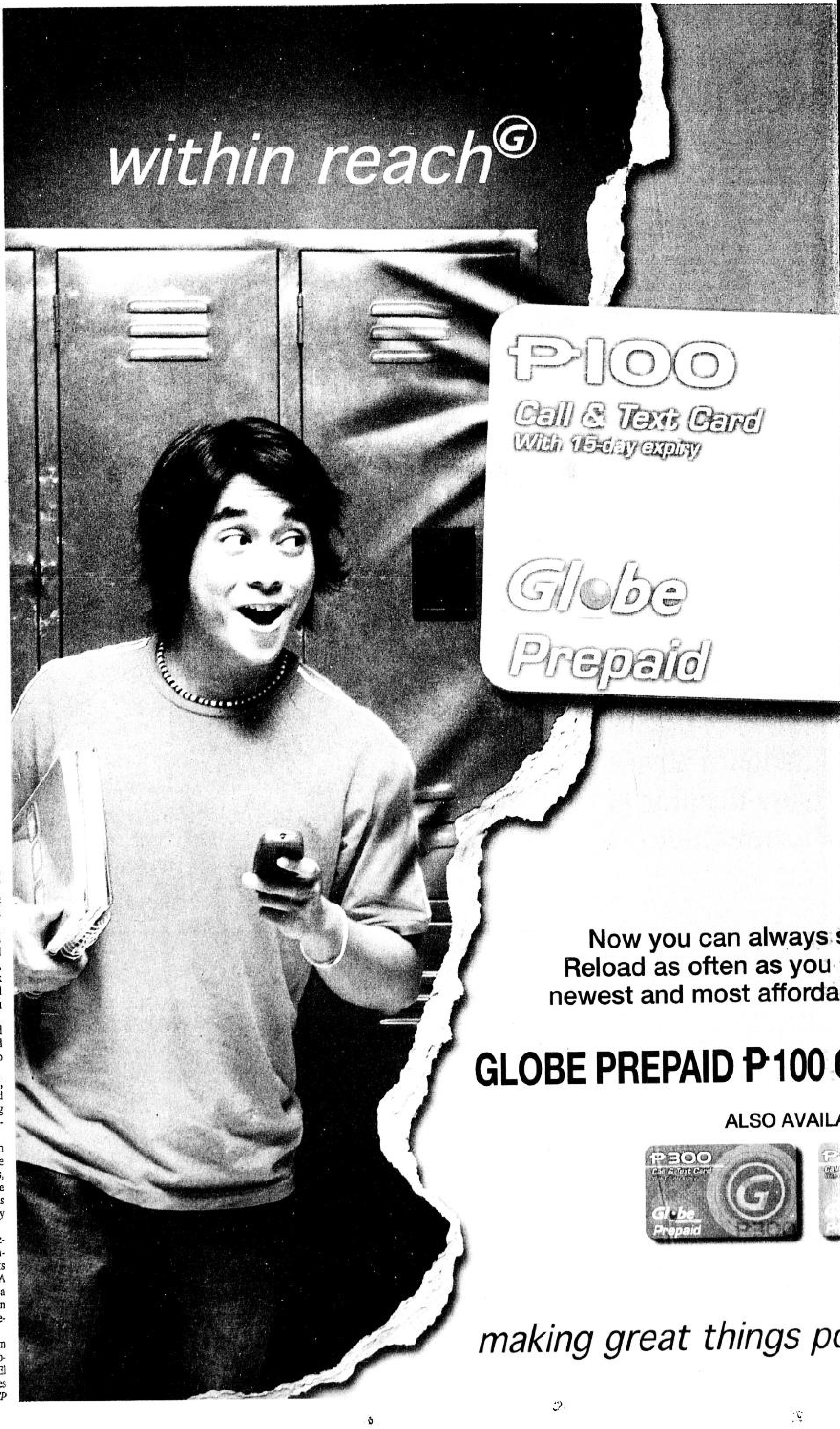
It was unclear on Friday what had caused the accident, although overloading or bad weather are the prime suspects, according to Tunisian media.

Thanks to its proximity to the Italian coast, Tunisia has become, along with Morocco and its proximity to Spain, a favorite crossing point for illegal immigrants from Sub-Saharan and North Africa headed for Europe.

In a recent upsurge in clandestine migration in the region, another boat carrying 28 people bound for Italy was intercepted Friday off Zarzis, further south along Tunisia's east coast. Late Thursday a makeshift boat carrying 24 Africans from a "neighboring country"—again likely Libya—was stopped off Tunisia's Djerba island.

The Italian authorities on Wednesday accused Libya of being the launching pad for innumerable boats ferrying illegal immigrants across the Mediterranean to Italy's shores. A week ago a boat that had sailed from Libya with 70 people from north and sub-Saharan Africa sank near the Italian island of Lampedusa, claiming at least seven lives.

The Tunisian authorities have clamped down on a recent increase in attempts to reach European shores. In May, Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali called for "the strictest measures to prevent illegal immigration." *AFP*



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US says it reserves right to wage war on Iran

TEHRAN/LONDON—A top US official said on Friday Washington reserved the right to use military action to stop Iran from making nuclear weapons, but Tehran accused the United States of waging a baseless propaganda war.

In a further sign of heightened tensions, a senior Iranian cleric warned Washington not to treat Iran like Afghanistan or Iraq and urged courts to impose death sentences on "hooligans" who have staged days of protests against Islamic clerical rule.

The protests in Iran seemed to fizzle out overnight amid a heavy security presence.

John Bolton, a leading member of US President George W. Bush's administration, stressed military action against Iran was one among an array of possibilities and relatively low down the agenda.

"The president has repeatedly said that all options are on the table, but (military action) is not only not our preference.

It is far, far from our minds," Bolton told the BBC.

But when pressed on the issue, the undersecretary of state for arms control and international security said: "It has to be an option."

In Amman, US Senate foreign relations committee Chair Richard Lugar said: "My own viewpoint is that our president... (has) emphasised the diplomatic route."

Washington seized on a statement by the UN nuclear watchdog on Thursday criticizing what it said was Iran's failure to comply with agreements designed to prevent the use of civilian nuclear resources to make atomic weapons.

The United States has demanded that Iran, sandwiched between Iraq and Afghanistan where US forces now have a strong foothold, must abide by a nuclear non-proliferation treaty and sign a new protocol that would allow snap inspections.

Bush branded Iran part of an "axis of evil" along with North Korea and Saddam Hussein's Iraq over suspected weapons of mass destruction and alleged support for terrorism. Tehran says its nuclear programme is designed for electricity and denies the terrorism charge.

Iran on Friday welcomed the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) statement on its nuclear activities and said the United States had failed in its efforts to secure a tough resolution against the Islamic republic.

"America has carried out extensive propaganda... and (Iran's) presentation of enough proofs and documents caused their failure," said Iranian atomic head Gholamreza Aghazadeh, adding that Iran was cooperating with UN inspectors.

The IAEA statement fell short of the damning resolution the United States had originally sought.

In Moscow, Russian President Vladimir Putin, whose country is helping Iran with its nuclear program, said he had been personally assured by Iranian President Mohammad Khatami two days ago that Tehran had no plans to develop nuclear weapons.

At a summit in Porto Carras, Greece, European Union leaders also weighed in against Iran over its nuclear programme and warned of possible trade ramifications for Tehran. *Reuters*

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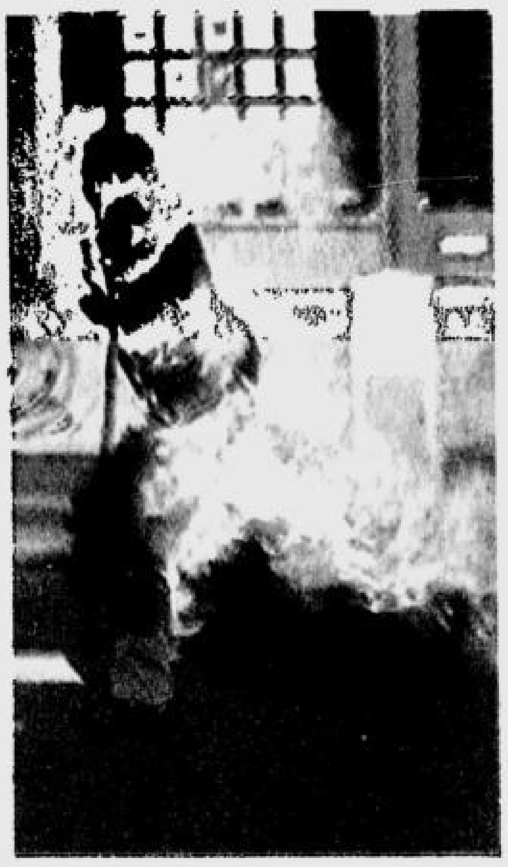

A STILL image taken off an amateur video shows an Iranian man running after setting himself alight outside the French Embassy in London June 20. REUTERS

2 Iranian men torch selves in London

LONDON—Two men set themselves on fire outside the French Embassy in London on Friday as part of widening protests in Europe against a French crackdown on the Iranian armed opposition group, the People's Mujahedeen.

The torchings bring to 10 the number of self-immolations in European cities to protest the crackdown launched by French police Tuesday. One woman died Thursday in France of her injuries.

A man aged around 18 set himself on fire outside the embassy in Knightsbridge, an upmarket area of London, on Friday morning. His flames were extinguished by police and he was said to be in a serious condition in hospital.

The second man to torch himself on Friday was named as Mohammad Etminan, aged around 40. He set fire to his jacket, which was soaked in a flammable substance, at around 5 p.m., one of the demonstration's organizers, Laila Jazayeri, said.

His flames were also extinguished by police although two officers were taken to hospital after suffering minor burns.

"Two of my officers have been taken to hospital today and I am concerned that more officers do not end up in the same position," said deputy assistant commissioner Andy Trotter, the officer in charge of policing the operation. *AFP*

105 Nigerians killed in fuel pipeline blast

LAGOS—At least 105 Nigerian villagers were killed when a petrol pipeline exploded on Thursday as they were looting fuel, the head of the Nigerian Red Cross said on Saturday.

"Whole families were wiped out. We fear many more will die as there are many people with (serious) burns in local hospitals and private homes," said Red Cross president Emmanuel Ijewere.

The explosion occurred as villagers from the area around the town of Ovim in the southeastern Nigerian state of Abia scooped up petrol from a vandalized pipeline, he said.

Red Cross emergency teams have been sent to the area with relief materials, Ijewere said.

Ijewere said that the pipeline had begun leaking around six weeks ago. At first it had been carrying kerosene, and then diesel, but later began to leak the more volatile petrol.

Ndu Ughamadu, public affairs manager of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corp., confirmed the blast and said that engineers had been sent to the scene.

He said that it had been carrying petrol from the southern city of Port Harcourt to Enugu.

"We have received reports that suspected thieves had vandalized the pipeline. Villagers went there to try and scoop up the gasoline, and a spark set off the explosion," he said by telephone.

"We understand that there were casualties. We cannot confirm the numbers," he said.

A humanitarian aid source said that although police had been alerted to the fuel leak, they had "done little or nothing" to secure the area before the explosion.

Pipeline explosions are relatively common in Nigeria, Africa's largest oil exporter, and often claim hundreds of lives among the poverty-stricken communities lying alongside the pipeline.

The west African nation, home to more than 120 million people, is currently undergoing severe petrol shortages and on Friday the government announced a 54-percent price hike at the pumps. *AFP*

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Assistant Editor **Tony Bergonia**

VISAYAS BUREAU
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9 KILLED IN OUTBREAK

Malaria hits remote Bugkalot villages

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya—At least nine people have died while more than 50 others have been reported suffering from malaria since the epidemic struck late last month in three Bugkalot villages in Alfonso Castañeda town.

On Friday, health officials started an investigation into the reported outbreak of malaria and other water-borne diseases in the upland barangays of Pelaway, Cawayan and Lipuga.

But authorities here fear that the figures could increase because more patients could not be accounted for due to the remote location of their houses. They said some patients were taken to various hospitals in Nueva Vizcaya, Metro Manila, Quirino and Nueva Ecija

"*Kung sa dami lang, marami na talaga; hindi na nga namin binibilang* (There are many cases, we even stopped counting)," Potado Gabogen, Pelaway barangay chair, told the INQUIRER on Friday.

"Just now, we took two of our latest patients to hospitals in Cabanatuan and San Jose (cities in Nueva Ecija)," he said.

"There are many others who are bedridden and content themselves (sic) with self-medication by taking paracetamol (tablets for headache and fever)," Gabogen added.

Malaria is a disease transmitted through bites of anopheles mosquitoes. Symptoms include intermittent fever and chills, severe headache and weakness.

Dr. Venancio Boy, acting provincial health officer, said a medical team was sent early this month to the area and verified the reported outbreak. The team also gave out medicines for malaria and diarrhea, Boy said.

Latest figures from the provincial health office showed that of the 296 blood samples collected by the team from residents of the three barangays, 44 were tested positive for malaria.

Of the 44 cases, 41 were confirmed cases of cerebral malaria, a more lethal form of the disease, according to Boy.

Gabogen said aside from malaria, cases of dengue fever and diarrhea have been reported among Bugkalot tribe members and "outsiders" who were engaged in the furniture trade in the area.

The affected villages are located at the hinterlands of the Caraballo mountains in southeastern Nueva Vizcaya. The area is about three hours' drive through mountain roads from the town's rural health center.

Earlier, Dr. Joy Palad, acting health officer of Alfonso Castañeda, blamed the remoteness of the area and their lack of manpower for their inability to control the epidemic at its early stages.

Dr. Antonio Parong of the Department of Health said a team from the DOH's national epidemiology center would lead medical teams from the regional and provincial health offices on Monday to investigate and try to control the outbreak. *Melvin Gascon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

13 drug rings operate in Calabarzon area

CANLUBANG, Laguna—At least 13 illegal drug syndicates with at least 200 members operate in the Calabarzon area, said a report of the Police Regional Office 4 based in Camp Vicente Lim.

The report said the syndicates supply the drug needs, mostly shabu (methamphetamine hydrochloride) and marijuana, of 9,372 suspected pushers and users in the provinces of Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon.

Chief Supt. Jaime Caringal stressed that the report is now undergoing validation.

Caringal said most of the information used as bases for the list came from past reports of different barangay anti-drug abuse councils in the region.

"But based on the initial reports that I (have) received, I can safely conclude that after the validation, the resulting figures will not differ much from (those on) the old lists," he told the INQUIRER.

The report said the syndicate members were posted in the different strategic distribution networks of the drug rings.

Caringal also said there were "persistent reports on the possible involvement of some government officials" with the drug syndicates.

He said he had ordered all the municipal police stations in the Calabarzon region to strictly obey the presidential directive to solidify the crackdown on illegal drug traffickers.

"But an honest-to-goodness anti-drug campaign should first start by weeding out 'drug-tainted cops' among the ranks through a series of surprise drug tests," he pointed out. "To be credible in our campaign, all cops should be free from any shade of suspicion."

Caringal warned sanctions for police officers who would not meet the demand of the presidential order. However, he cautioned the arresting officers to strictly observe the legal procedures so as not to bungle the case in court on questions of legal technicalities.

The President ordered the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency and other law enforcement agencies to neutralize, if not eradicate, drug rings operating in the country and produce positive results within three months.

In an update on the continuous police drug tests, Caringal said 10 more policemen from different stations in the region have been confirmed positive in the previous "screening examination" and are now undergoing "confirmatory drug test."

Earlier, two Batangas police officers have been found positive for drugs after the confirmatory test.

A source from the regional police office told the INQUIRER that a Quezon policeman had also been tested positive during the recent confirmatory drug test, bringing to three the number of cops suspected of using prohibited drugs.

The PRO4 reported that from January to May 31, different police units in the Calabarzon area have arrested 650 suspected pushers and 1,692 users. *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

JEFFREY TUPAZ

EVICTED ONCE MORE
This boy helps his parents dismantle their makeshift house in Buisan, Pikit, North Cotabato, after the evacuees were forced to leave the area.

Parents bar principal from school

OROQUIETA CITY—Tension greeted the opening of classes in a high school in Misamis Occidental, after parents blocked the entry of a school principal they once accused of committing financial irregularities.

Some 100 parents barricaded the gates of the Calamba National Comprehensive High School (CNCHS) beginning Monday in protest of the assumption of Lolita Daque as school principal.

Because of the barricade, some 800 students and their teachers failed to enter the school.

To ensure that Daque would not be able to sneak in, the parents even kept vigil at the school's gates.

The protest turned violent on Tuesday, when Daque tried to force her way.

Daque said Rodolfo Pagalaran, chair of CNCHS' Parents, Teachers and Community Association (PTCA), tried to strike her with crutches, but a police officer was able to prevent him from hitting her.

Negotiations were conducted Wednesday for the protesting parents to allow the entry of the school's teaching staff, so that classes can start.

Flor Mantilla, administrative officer of the Department of Education's Misamis Occidental Division, said classes finally started Wednesday when the parents gave way for the entry of teachers and students.

She said DepEd officials, however, did not allow Daque to enter the campus. As of Friday, attendance was scant in the tension-gripped school.

But Mantilla said they expected things to normalize in a few days.

Pagalaran said they would continue with the protest until Daque was replaced.

The PTCA last year accused Daque, who was then head teacher at the school, with financial irregularities.

Mantilla said the complaints against Daque had already been dismissed for lack of evidence. *Ryan D. Rosauro, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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Batangas police chief orders probe of sex raps

BATANGAS CITY—After the mauling of two boys inside the city police's detention cell, and the sexual harassment charges filed by a 16-year old girl against two police officers, the province's police director has ordered a thorough investigation of the entire city police force yesterday.

"We are also scheduling a lineup of all the police on duty on Sunday night, when the mauling and sexual harassment happened, to help the victim identify her harassers," Magtibay said.

Already under fire for the mounting cases of unsolved murders, the Batangas police was hit again when a police officer shot and killed a businessman and fled after the crime last week.

Two officers of the police force were also tested positive for drugs during a surprise drug test on June 3.

The order for the investigation of the entire city police force came three days after three teenagers were reportedly abused inside the police station on Sunday night.

Two boys and a girl were jailed on Sunday night on charges of vagrancy.

The three were arrested by the barangay captain of Soro-Soro Kalsada Edgardo Untiveros who said the teen-agers were loitering in the barangay well past 10 p.m.

The curfew law in the city, which was implemented two years ago, prohibits minors from going out in the streets beyond 10 p.m.

Untiveros took the victims to the police station that night and detained in a jail, where a living-out inmate identified as Dennis Mendoza reportedly mauled the two boys as police officers were watching.

According to one of the victims, two police officers took her out of jail and sexually harassed her.

The three were released on Monday morning and went directly to the Medico Legal Officer at the Batangas Regional Hospital.

On Thursday, the two boys filed charges of serious physical injury against their aggressor, while the girl filed sexual harassment charges against the two police officers who had taken advantage of her.

That same day, upon the provincial director's order, the provincial intelligence and investigation division started investigating the case. *Mei Magsino, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

NBI arrests British fugitive in Cebu

CEBU CITY—Authorities on Thursday arrested a fugitive from the United Kingdom who allegedly defrauded many Britons of millions of pounds after they invested in his foundation.

Members of the National Bureau of Investigation and the Bureau of Immigration collared businessman George Steen, 55, while driving his BMW sedan on Lapulapu City, Mactan Island, Cebu, said Reynaldo Esmeralda, NBI acting director for Central Visayas.

The arrest was made on the strength of the mission order issued by the Bureau of Immigration based on the arrest warrant issued by a UK court.

Esmeralda said British agents were expected to fly to the Philippines to fetch Steen and bring him back to the UK.

Steen, who is married to a Filipina, is an undocumented alien because he has no valid passport and other valid travel documents.

He fled to the Philippines in mid-1997, three years after he put up Peninsular Holdings-Philippine Finance in UK.

The suspect along with two others reportedly received millions of British pounds in so-called administration fees from applicant-investors that entitled the members 60 percent of the loanable amount from the foundation.

Steen's scheme failed and he was charged with large-scale international fraud before a British court, said NBI Director Reynaldo Wycoco in a statement.

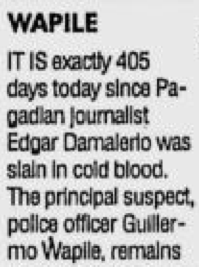
Last June 4, Wycoco received a communication from the Durham Constabulary in Great Britain about Steen's presence in the country.

On June 10, the NBI identified his whereabouts in Cebu. Arrangements were then made with the BI for Steen's arrest.

Esmeralda said Steen's houses at White Sand Subdivision, Lapu-Lapu City and at Ma. Luisa Subdivision, Barangay Banilad, Cebu City, were being kept under 24-hour surveillance.

He said their efforts paid off when one of the NBI agents spotted Steen driving his BMW. "He immediately gave up. He knows that authorities are running after him," Esmeralda said. *Suzzane B. Salva, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Countdown for Justice



WAPILE

IT IS exactly 405 days today since Pagadian journalist Edgar Damalerio was slain in cold blood. The principal suspect, police officer Guillermo Wapile, remains at large after escaping while in the custody of the police.

Across the NATION

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph
Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

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9 KILLED IN OUTBREAK

Malaria hits remote Bugkalot villages

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya—At least nine people have died while more than 50 others have been reported suffering from malaria since the epidemic struck late last month in three Bugkalot villages in Alfonso Castañeda town.

On Friday, health officials started an investigation into the reported outbreak of malaria and other water-borne diseases in the upland barangays of Pelaway, Cawayan and Lipuga.

But authorities here fear that the figures could increase because more patients could not be accounted for due to the remote location of their houses. They said some patients were taken to various hospitals in Nueva Vizcaya, Metro Manila, Quirino and Nueva Ecija

"*Kung sa dami lang, marami na talaga; hindi na nga namin binibilang* (There are many cases, we even stopped counting)," Potado Gabogen, Pelaway barangay chair, told the INQUIRER on Friday.

"Just now, we took two of our latest patients to hospitals in Cabanatuan and San Jose (cities in Nueva Ecija)," he said.

"There are many others who are bedridden and content themselves (sic) with self-medication by taking paracetamol (tablets for headache and fever)," Gabogen added.

Malaria is a disease transmitted through bites of anopheles mosquitoes. Symptoms include intermittent fever and chills, severe headache and weakness.

Dr. Venancio Boy, acting provincial health officer, said a medical team was sent early this month to the area and verified the reported outbreak. The team also gave out medicines for malaria and diarrhea, Boy said.

Latest figures from the provincial health office showed that of the 296 blood samples collected by the team from residents of the three barangays, 44 were tested positive for malaria.

Of the 44 cases, 41 were confirmed cases of cerebral malaria, a more lethal form of the disease, according to Boy.

Gabogen said aside from malaria, cases of dengue fever and diarrhea have been reported among Bugkalot tribe members and "outsiders" who were engaged in the furniture trade in the area.

The affected villages are located at the hinterlands of the Caraballo mountains in southeastern Nueva Vizcaya. The area is about three hours' drive through mountain roads from the town's rural health center.

Earlier, Dr. Joy Palad, acting health officer of Alfonso Castañeda, blamed the remoteness of the area and their lack of manpower for their inability to control the epidemic at its early stages.

Dr. Antonio Parong of the Department of Health said a team from the DOH's national epidemiology center would lead medical teams from the regional and provincial health offices on Monday to investigate and try to control the outbreak. *Melvin Gascon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

13 drug rings operate in Calabarzon area

CANLUBANG, Laguna—At least 13 illegal drug syndicates with at least 200 members operate in the Calabarzon area, said a report of the Police Regional Office 4 based in Camp Vicente Lim.

The report said the syndicates supply the drug needs, mostly shabu (methamphetamine hydrochloride) and marijuana, of 9,372 suspected pushers and users in the provinces of Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon.

Chief Supt. Jaime Caringal stressed that the report is now undergoing validation.

Caringal said most of the information used as bases for the list came from past reports of different barangay anti-drug abuse councils in the region.

"But based on the initial reports that I (have) received, I can safely conclude that after the validation, the resulting figures will not differ much from (those on) the old lists," he told the INQUIRER.

The report said the syndicate members were posted in the different strategic distribution networks of the drug rings.

Caringal also said there were "persistent reports on the possible involvement of some government officials" with the drug syndicates.

He said he had ordered all the municipal police stations in the Calabarzon region to strictly obey the presidential directive to solidify the crackdown on illegal drug traffickers.

"But an honest-to-goodness anti-drug campaign should first start by weeding out 'drug-tainted cops' among the ranks through a series of surprise drug tests," he pointed out. "To be credible in our campaign, all cops should be free from any shade of suspicion."

Caringal warned sanctions for police officers who would not meet the demand of the presidential order. However, he cautioned the arresting officers to strictly observe the legal procedures so as not to bungle the case in court on questions of legal technicalities.

The President ordered the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency and other law enforcement agencies to neutralize, if not eradicate, drug rings operating in the country and produce positive results within three months.

In an update on the continuous police drug tests, Caringal said 10 more policemen from different stations in the region have been confirmed positive in the previous "screening examination" and are now undergoing "confirmatory drug test."

Earlier, two Batangas police officers have been found positive for drugs after the confirmatory test.

A source from the regional police office told the INQUIRER that a Quezon policeman had also been tested positive during the recent confirmatory drug test, bringing to three the number of cops suspected of using prohibited drugs.

The PRO4 reported that from January to May 31, different police units in the Calabarzon area have arrested 650 suspected pushers and 1,692 users. *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

EVICTED ONCE MORE

JEFFREY TUPAZ

This boy helps his parents dismantle their makeshift house in Buisan, Pikit, North Cotabato, after the evacuees were forced to leave the area.

Parents bar principal from school

OROQUIETA CITY—Tension greeted the opening of classes in a high school in Misamis Occidental, after parents blocked the entry of a school principal they once accused of committing financial irregularities.

Some 100 parents barricaded the gates of the Calamba National Comprehensive High School (CNCHS) beginning Monday in protest of the assumption of Lolita Daque as school principal.

Because of the barricade, some 800 students and their teachers failed to enter the school.

To ensure that Daque would not be able to sneak in, the parents even kept vigil at the school's gates.

The protest turned violent on Tuesday, when Daque tried to force her way.

Daque said Rodolfo Pagalaran, chair of CNCHS' Parents, Teachers and Community Association (PTCA), tried to strike her with crutches, but a police officer was able to prevent him from hitting her.

Negotiations were conducted Wednesday for the protesting parents to allow the entry of the school's teaching staff, so that classes can start.

Flor Mantilla, administrative officer of the Department of Education's Misamis Occidental Division, said classes finally started Wednesday when the parents gave way for the entry of teachers and students.

She said DepEd officials, however, did not allow Daque to enter the campus. As of Friday, attendance was scant in the tension-gripped school.

But Mantilla said they expected things to normalize in a few days.

Pagalaran said they would continue with the protest until Daque was replaced.

The PTCA last year accused Daque, who was then head teacher at the school, with financial irregularities.

Mantilla said the complaints against Daque had already been dismissed for lack of evidence. *Ryan D. Rosauro, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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Batangas police chief orders probe of sex raps

BATANGAS CITY—After the mauling of two boys inside the city police's detention cell, and the sexual harassment charges filed by a 16-year old girl against two police officers, the province's police director has ordered a thorough investigation of the entire city police force yesterday.

"We are also scheduling a lineup of all the police on duty on Sunday night, when the mauling and sexual harassment happened, to help the victim identify her harassers," Magtibay said.

Already under fire for the mounting cases of unsolved murders, the Batangas police was hit again when a police officer shot and killed a businessman and fled after the crime last week.

Two officers of the police force were also tested positive for drugs during a surprise drug test on June 3.

The order for the investigation of the entire city police force came three days after three teenagers were reportedly abused inside the police station on Sunday night.

Two boys and a girl were jailed on Sunday night on charges of vagrancy.

The three were arrested by the barangay captain of Soro-Soro Kalsada Edgardo Untiveros who said the teen-agers were loitering in the barangay well past 10 p.m.

The curfew law in the city, which was implemented two years ago, prohibits minors from going out in the streets beyond 10 p.m.

Untiveros took the victims to the police station that night and detained in a jail, where a living-out inmate identified as Dennis Mendoza reportedly mauled the two boys as police officers were watching.

According to one of the victims, two police officers took her out of jail and sexually harassed her.

The three were released on Monday morning and went directly to the Medico Legal Officer at the Batangas Regional Hospital.

On Thursday, the two boys filed charges of serious physical injury against their aggressor, while the girl filed sexual harassment charges against the two police officers who had taken advantage of her.

That same day, upon the provincial director's order, the provincial intelligence and investigation division started investigating the case. *Mei Magsino, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

NBI arrests British fugitive in Cebu

CEBU CITY—Authorities on Thursday arrested a fugitive from the United Kingdom who allegedly defrauded many Britons of millions of pounds after they invested in his foundation.

Members of the National Bureau of Investigation and the Bureau of Immigration collared businessman George Steen, 55, while driving his BMW sedan on Lapulapu City, Mactan Island, Cebu, said Reynaldo Esmeralda, NBI acting director for Central Visayas.

The arrest was made on the strength of the mission order issued by the Bureau of Immigration based on the arrest warrant issued by a UK court.

Esmeralda said British agents were expected to fly to the Philippines to fetch Steen and bring him back to the UK.

Steen, who is married to a Filipina, is an undocumented alien because he has no valid passport and other valid travel documents.

He fled to the Philippines in mid-1997, three years after he put up Peninsular Holdings-Philippine Finance in UK.

The suspect along with two others reportedly received millions of British pounds in so-called administration fees from applicant-investors that entitled the members 60 percent of the loanable amount from the foundation.

Steen's scheme failed and he was charged with large-scale international fraud before a British court, said NBI Director Reynaldo Wycoco in a statement.

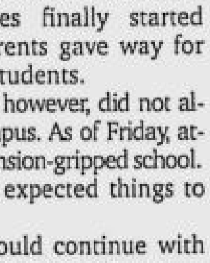
Last June 4, Wycoco received a communication from the Durham Constabulary in Great Britain about Steen's presence in the country.

On June 10, the NBI identified his whereabouts in Cebu. Arrangements were then made with the BI for Steen's arrest.

Esmeralda said Steen's houses at White Sand Subdivision, Lapu-Lapu City and at Ma. Luisa Subdivision, Barangay Banilad, Cebu City, were being kept under 24-hour surveillance.

He said their efforts paid off when one of the NBI agents spotted Steen driving his BMW. "He immediately gave up. He knows that authorities are running after him," Esmeralda said. *Suzzane B. Salva, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Countdown for Justice



WAPILE

IT IS exactly 405 days today since Pagadian journalist Edgar Damalerio was slain in cold blood. The principal suspect, police officer Guillermo Wapile, remains at large after escaping while in the custody of the police.

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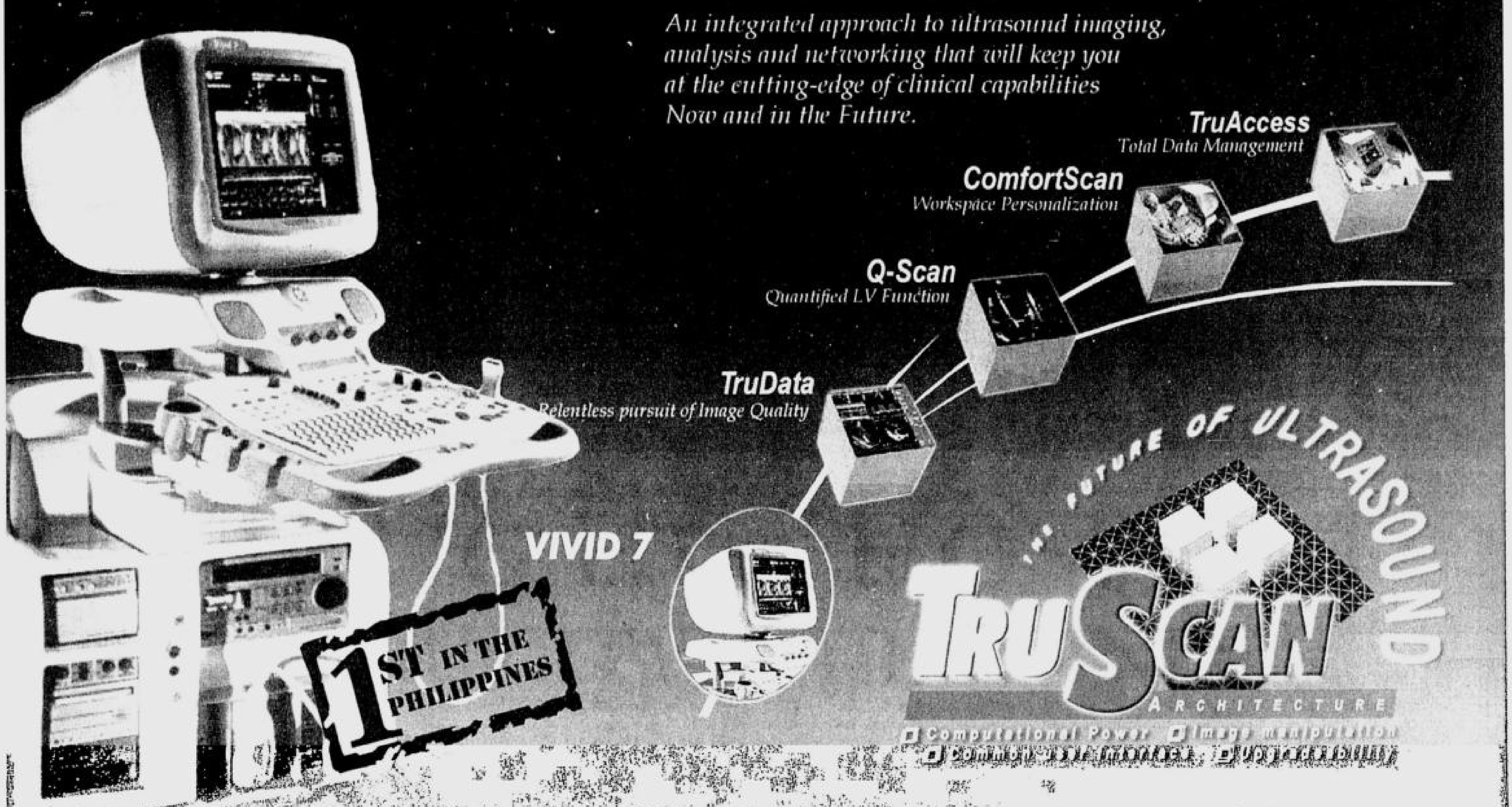
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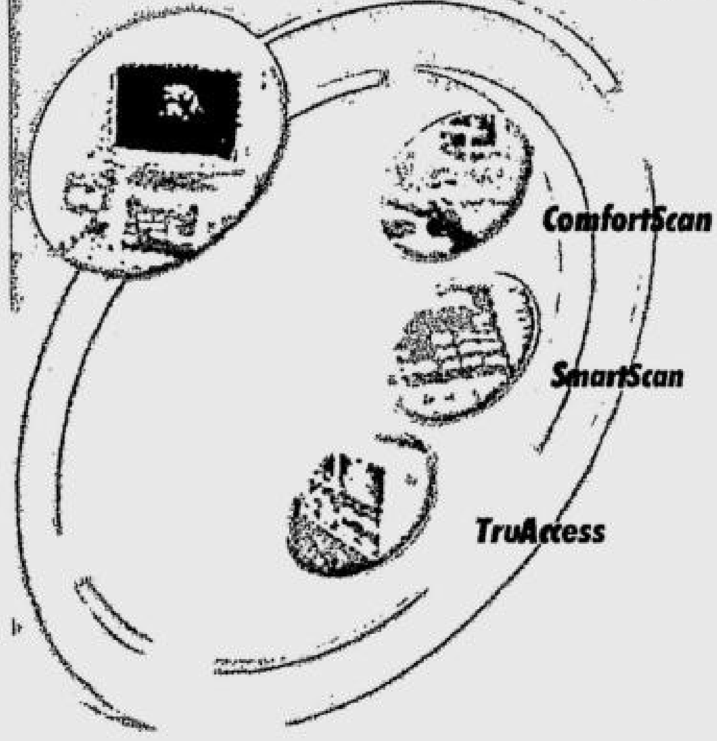
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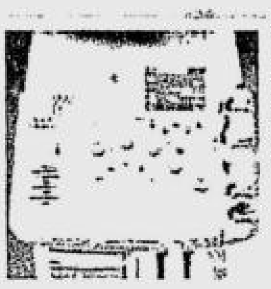

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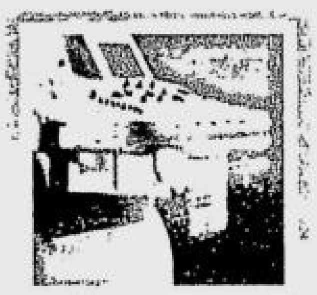

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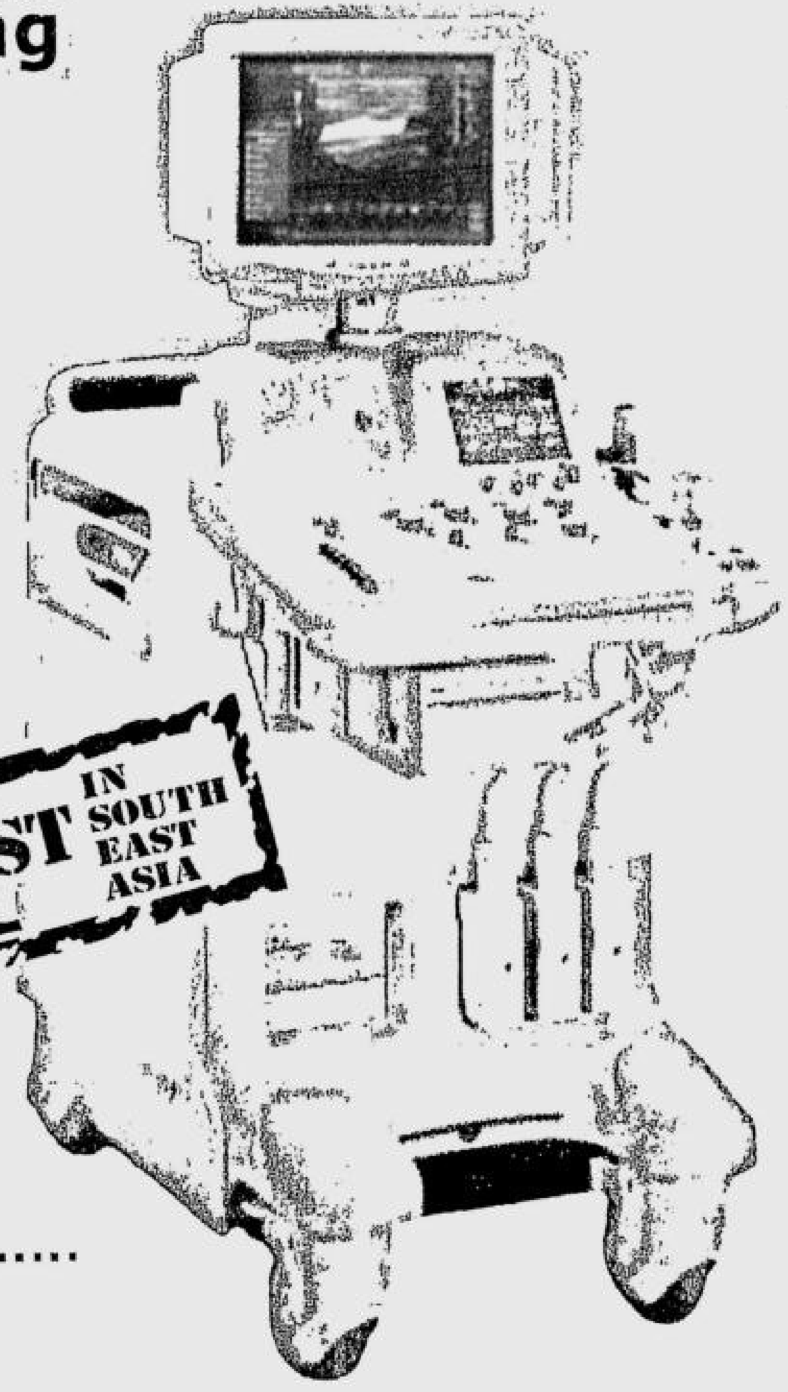
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Fish cages invade protected areas

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Fish cages in Central Luzon provinces increased from 19 in 1999 to 202 last February and many of these are within two protected marine reserves or inside a proposed marine culture park in Zambales, documents obtained by the INQUIRER showed.

The 18 *tilapia* cages surveyed at Barangay Aya in Pantabangan, Nueva Ecija four years ago were not listed in the recent initial inventory of the regional Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.

Fish cages in Zambales increased from only one in 1999 to at least 188 early this year, according to a BFAR report completed in February and made available on Monday.

There were 140 fish cages and pens at Barangay Lipay in Palauig in Zambales.

The report did not say the total hectares these cages occupied nor identified their owners.

Overcrowding

The survey was prompted by a December 2002 memorandum from BFAR Director Malcolm Sarmiento over concerns at the proliferation or overcrowding of fish cages, the report said.

Almost 90 percent of fish cages established in the municipal waters of Masinloc and Palauig along Sitio Luan and Matalvi Island are "within the demarcated areas set by the bureau" for its proposed marine culture park there, the report added.

Cages were built even within the Masinloc and Oyon bays that were classified as marine reserves under the National Integrated Protected Areas System (Nipas) or Republic Act No. 7586.

No permits

Citing the findings of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the BFAR said those cages are operating without environmental compliance certificates.

Cages started sprouting in Subic town although there are "currently no identified areas declared for marine fish cage culture (there)," the BFAR noted, citing information from local fisheries officials.

"Most of the fish cages installed and currently in operation were given permits by the (local governments) that have jurisdiction over them," the BFAR said.

The bureau said the lack of specific regulations and guidelines led to "indiscriminate issuance of permits" to operators and the rapid increase in the number of cages.

It also pointed out that most coastal towns have "no existing fishery ordinances to maintain their fishery activities." *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

BACK TO SQUARE ONE

TOOTS SOBERANO/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

A farmer in La Union tries to plow a heavily silted field after the flood waters subsided from the heavy rains brought by typhoon "Egay" last week.

Pinoy appetite for coffee may help save endangered Zambo mountain

OROQUIETA CITY—The Filipino consumers' voracious appetite for coffee could help save a mountain range in the Zamboanga Peninsula, which is currently endangered by over-exploitation by poor upland dwellers who are highly dependent for its resources.

Rolando Dingal, protected area superintendent for the Malindang mountain range, said the rosy economic prospects of coffee makes it a viable livelihood option for tillers around the mountain range's buffer zone.

The multi-use buffer zone, measuring some 19,000 hectares, is being used as agricultural production area by about 4,000 upland farm families.

And because of the low yield, especially after some three to five years, the farmers are constrained to open new farming sites, which means clearing portions of the remaining forest.

Apart from causing the shrinkage of the mountain range's forest zone by expanding the area for crop production, the poor upland dwellers are also lured into illegal logging for additional income.

Statistics of the Malindang Protected Area Office (PAO) show that 25 to 50 hectares of the forests are being destroyed annually. The rate went higher after poverty incidence rose due to the downturn in the local economy that is dependent on coconut.

Dingal said a viable alternative livelihood base for the upland families could arrest the trend.

And because of its promising prospects, Dingal said, coffee is a good option.

A study by the National Coffee Development Board (NCDB) released last year showed that the country consumes 55,000 metric tons (MT) of coffee beans a year but annual production is only 20,000 to 25,000 MT.

The shortfall is met through dollar-draining importations. This situation becomes alarming in the next 10 years, when annual consumption is projected to climb to 70,000 MT.

Prospects are bright even at the local market. A factory in Cagayan de Oro City has a very high demand for dried coffee beans to be processed into instant coffee blend and confectionery products, initial market research of PAO show.

Dried coffee beans are bought in the local market at P40 to P46 per kilo.

What excites Dingal into seriously looking into coffee is that the crop also performs ecological restoration hence, it is an environmentally sound crop alternative in uplifting upland farmers' incomes.

Coffee can be grown in hilly, rolling and flat terrains. A hectare can accommodate about a thousand trees. The plant matures in 30 months after planting, meaning harvest can start after that period.

Because coffee is not susceptible to pests, Dingal explained, it does not need pesticides.

Raising coffee, therefore, fits into organic farming methods, he stressed.

"If coffee is planted on a hilly terrain, (coffee) acts as an effective instrument (in preventing) soil erosion, not to mention the cooling effect it has on one's surroundings," he added. *Ryan D. Rosauro, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Cagayan de Oro hub of 2nd nautical highway route

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—Agriculture Secretary Luis Lorenzo said the opening in this city of the second route for the government's Roll-on Roll-off (RoRo) Nautical Highway would speed up the shipment of Mindanao's agricultural products to Luzon.

The route was launched during President Macapagal-Arroyo's visit this week although she signed the designation of the city as second RoRo route on June 9.

"I hope that with this Executive Order, we will be having a better cargo rate for the products of Mindanao to the rest of the market," President Macapagal said during the launching on Monday.

With the opening of the route, products from Mindanao could be shipped to Manila within 36 hours, Lorenzo said.

"The RoRo facilities enhance good quality and stability of prices of the produce because shipments require almost no stevedoring services as they are no longer off-loaded from cargo trucks," he said.

The first RoRo route was launched in Zamboanga del Norte on March 30.

The 30-hour sea segment, serviced by WG&A Superferry, starts from Cagayan de Oro as hub, links with the Visayas through Dumaguete, continues on to service Southern Luzon and Bicol through Batangas City, and ends in the port of Manila.

Lorenzo said a third food route to be billed as the "Grains Highway" is now in the drawing boards. This would feature mechanized production, processing and bulk handling and cross-shipment of corn from General Santos and Dapitan, Cebu, and Isabela, Subic, Batangas and Manila. *Ellen Red, Grace C. Albasin and Yr Musni, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

'Lumad' children work as nude dancers

MATI, Davao Oriental—A number of *lumad* children, as young as 15, have been working in girlie bars as nude dancers, Insp. Santiago Sababan, acting town police chief, said.

Sababan could not provide an exact number of children working in sleazy joints, but said most of them came from neighboring towns and other provinces.

Councilor Cesar de Erio said they were alarmed by these developments and wanted the police to immediately stop the practice.

"We have already requested the police to stop all these nude shows. We hope they (police) will respond to our calls," de Erio said.

Sababan said in the past, running after those exploiting the children was hampered by the fact that most operators of sleazy joints here were policemen themselves.

"Yes, it is true some policemen own these entertainment (joints)," he told the INQUIRER.

But Sababan did not say why none of the police-operators have been charged.

He said he sent them letters, warning them about sanctions if they persisted with their illegal acts.

Nude shows have proliferated in this town even with the passage of an ordinance banning lewd acts.

Sababan said he was determined to shut down establishments offering lewd shows, particularly those exploiting children, as come on.

The INQUIRER learned that syndicates were luring young girls from the highly impoverished towns of Baganga, Manay, Boston, Caraga and Cateel by offering them high paying jobs.

It would then be too late for the girls to back out when they find out that they were being offered as sex commodities.

The provincial office of the National Commission for the Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) has investigated the sex trafficking of hapless *lumad* girls but were unable to catch the recruiters. *Ferdinand O. Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Dumping killing tuna industry, says fishers' group

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—The tuna industry here, which is being kept alive by small-scale tuna fishermen known as handliners, would die in two years unless the government stops Taiwanese fishing vessels from dumping non-export grade tuna in the local market.

This was the warning issued by the Alliance of Tuna Handliners as they sought the help of Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo, in their bid to stop the transshipment of tuna by Taiwanese fishing vessels in the country.

The local tuna producers met with Ocampo during his visit in this city early this week.

Tuna producers have been complaining about the entry of Taiwanese fishing vessels in the country because they said it has affected the local tuna industry.

"If (the) government will not act to stop the dumping by Taiwanese tuna fishers of non-exportable tuna in the local wet market, in two years' time our tuna industry here would be dead," warned Roger Lim, president of the Alliance of Tuna Handliners.

Ocampo vowed to do his best to help the handliners but also urged them to lobby in Congress for amendments to the country's fisheries code.

Ocampo said there are provisions in the code that need to be amended.

Earlier, the Socsargen Tuna Handliners-Eco Fishing Cooperative (Sotuhefisco), an umbrella group of some 20,000 small tuna fishers with about 100,000 dependents in the South Cotabato-Sarangani-General Santos (Socsargen) area, asked the Department of Agriculture to scrap Fisheries Administrative Order No. 195 issued in 1999 by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.

FAO No. 195 allows Taiwanese and other foreign fishing vessels to use the Davao Fish Port in Toril, Davao City, as transshipment point for their tuna catch.

Ana Marie Zobel, Sotuhefisco representative, told reporters that the issuance of FAO No. 195 circumvents the provision of the 1998 Fisheries Act particularly on the use of any of the country's fish port complex as transshipment point.

Sec. 42 of RA No. 8550 or the Fisheries Act of 1998 says, "Foreign fishing vessels wishing to avail of land, air and sea facilities available in the Philippines to transport fishery products which are caught outside the Philippine territorial waters to its final destination shall call only at duly designated government-owned or controlled regional fish port complexes after securing clearance from the department."

Sec. 9 of FAO No. 195 (Transshipment) says, "Fish unloaded by foreign vessels at accredited transshipment ports which are no longer of exportable grade or can be considered as non-exportable may only be sold to canneries and processing plants after payment of customs duties and compliance with sanitary and pytosanitary (SPS) certificate."

Zobel said that FAO No. 195 distorted, if not twisted, the meaning of Sec. 42 of the Fisheries Act.

"Only Congress and not a mere administrative order can make amendments to the Fisheries Act," Zobel said.

The controversial administrative order was making the lives of lowly tuna handliners here miserable, she said.

Taiwanese fishers in cahoots with some BFAR officials have been unloading and selling their non-exportable tuna at the Davao and General Santos Fish Ports at P40 to P50 per kilo, about half of the market price of tuna produced by handline tuna fishers here, she pointed out.

The prevailing price of tuna products in the local market is P80 to P90. High-grade tuna was being sold at P120 per kilo.

Romeo Baldado, chief of Fishery Regulatory Section of the BFAR Regional office based in Davao City, sent a report to BFAR central office in Quezon City recommending the filing of a case in court and the apprehension of the Taiwanese fishing vessels.

In the same report, dated April 16, 1999, Baldado stated that "The entry of Taiwanese fishing vessels to Davao fish port complex without being officially recognized or issued with a clearance from the Secretary of Agriculture is a violation of Sections 42 and 87 of RA No. 8550 (Transshipment without clearance from the DA and Poaching in Philippine waters, respectively)."

Baldado further bared in his report that the problem (transshipment and poaching by Taiwanese fishers) has been going on for quite a long time, but nothing has been done to address it. *Aquiles Z. Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Tobacco funds for Ilocos to be released

BANAYOYO, Ilocos Sur—President Macapagal-Arroyo announced on Saturday that she would hand out the much-awaited share of Ilocos farmers of the excise tax from the production of Virginia tobacco.

The President's announcement for the Virginia-tobacco producing provinces' share from Republic Act No. 7171 funds was met with loud applause but farmers and officials were surprised that the amount was lower than what they have expected.

Ms Macapagal said the Department of Budget and Management would release on Monday P39 million for Ilocos Sur, P33 million for La Union, P25 million for Ilocos Norte and P7 million for Abra.

"*Ammok nga ti mannalon ket nagrigat ta bimmaba unay ti presyo ti tabako* (I know that farmers are experiencing hard times because the prices of tobacco have dropped)," she said.

The President was in this town on Saturday during the 62nd birthday celebration of former Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson.

Ms Macapagal said the share from RA No. 7171 funds would be used to fund a micro-financing project for tobacco farmers.

"*Kayat ko nga ti Amianan nga ilik ken pagilian tayo amin ket napintas ti progreso na* (I want the North, my hometown and yours, to progress)," she said.

During a recent dialogue with officials of the National Tobacco Administration, tobacco farmers said prices of Virginia and burley tobacco dropped by 35-60 percent because of their poor quality.

The dialogue was part of the inquiry conducted by Ilocos Sur Rep. Eric Singson on House Resolution 1195, which seeks to know the state of the tobacco industry, one of the biggest revenue earners in the region.

"It is the fourth in the last five years that our tobacco growers are at the losing end," Singson said.

He said the average selling price of Virginia and burley tobacco last year was P38 and P25 a kilogram, but this went down to P25 and P10 this year. *Leoncio Balbin Jr. and Frank Cimatu, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

ROUNDUP

Cop kills ex-rebel

BACOLOD CITY—A policeman was accused of killing a rebel returnee who was a principal witness in the ambush-slay of Vice Mayor Jose "Ondo" Cardenas of Canlaon City, Negros Oriental in April 2001. A murder complaint was filed against SPO2 Dionesio Zamora before the prosecutor's office in La Carlota, Negros Occidental for the death of Ronila Cadigal. Zamora was detained at the headquarters of the Negros Occidental Police Office pending resolution of the complaint. On June 4, Zamora allegedly shot Cadigal near the public market of La Carlota. Zamora earlier claimed that he and Cadigal grappled for possession of a pistol when the firearm went off. But Cadigal suffered two bullet wounds at his back.

Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau

Colorum schools

DARAGA, Albay—Dr. Ofelia Peralta, president of the Albay Private Schools Association, aired her concern over the mushrooming of new pre-schools in the region without permits to operate. In Albay, at least four new pre-schools are operating without permit, she said. She said she was preparing documents she would submit to the Department of Education for action. *Ronnie Lorejo, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Land distributed

LEGAZPI CITY—A Department of Agrarian Reform official here has denied that the land reform program in Albay has failed because of the harassment of the New People's Army. Leo Gaverla, Albay chief agrarian reform program officer, said his office was doing a good job as far as surveying of lands was concerned. He claimed that 42,000 out of 51,000 hectares of land in far-flung barangays in Albay have been distributed to farmer-beneficiaries. This is equivalent to 82-percent implementation. He, however, admitted that some persons have been trying to prevent their field teams from surveying the lands targeted for distribution, but he did not single out the NPA as the culprits. *Michael B. Jaucian, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph

INQUIRER Mindanao

Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

Breaking the myths of Lanao craftsmen

SHARP Maranao artistry shows in kris and sheath.

By Christine Godinez-Ortega
Marawi City

THE sounds of hammering could be heard from almost every household in Tugaya, Lanao del Sur, home of Maranao craftsmen. Tugaya is a town beside the Lake Lanao and is tucked away behind a hill off the national highway, 30 km east of Marawi City.

Our visit there one Saturday morning broke myths about the Moro-Maranao because we were privileged to witness his industry and artistry. We didn't see anybody loitering in the streets, except children at play and whose occasional laughter would rise above the muffled hammering.

We were told that in these parts, soon after breakfast, men and women, young and old, converge at their workshops found below their homes to work on a *baul*, a *kris* and all kinds of brass ware, as the beadwork and the weaving among Maranao women continue on the upper floors until late afternoon.

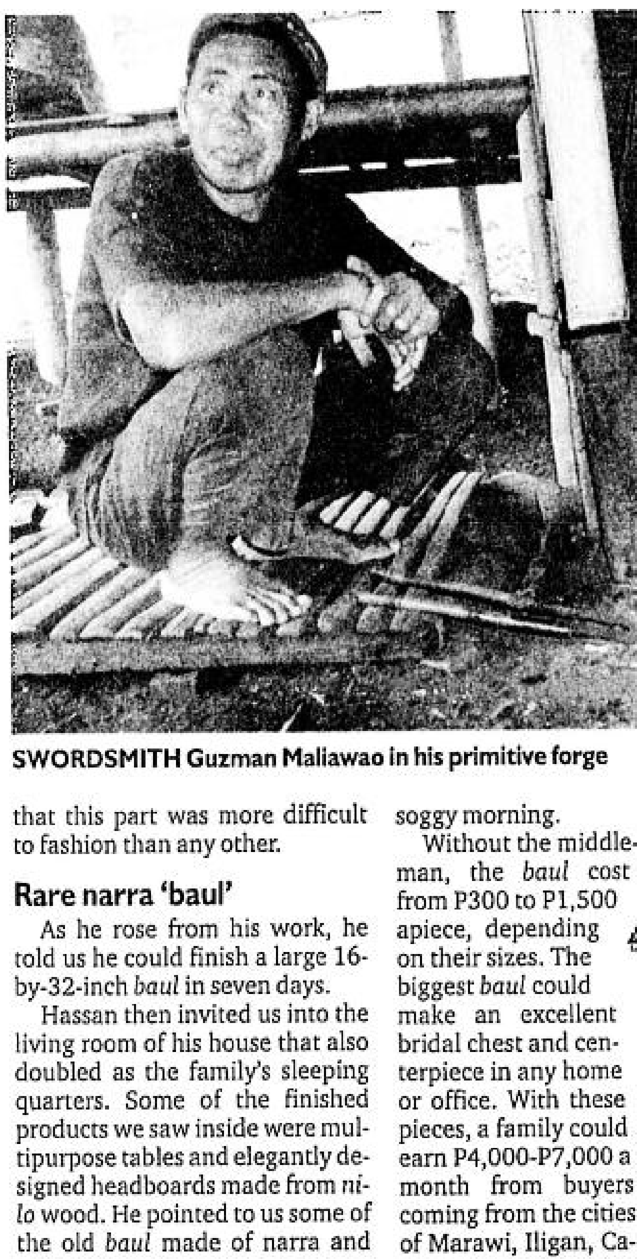
It was a spur-of-the-moment decision to go to Tugaya with the group composed of photo-journalist Bobby Timonera, who drove us in his Adventure van; the Maranao-speaking Julius Vacalares, descendant of the Maranao from Wato, Lanao del Sur; and our guide from Tugaya and medical doctor, Bobby Latiph.

By the time we walked around Tugaya in mid-morning, the rains had made us scramble for umbrellas, and the reddish-clay from the town's dirt roads that forked toward every cluster of houses we visited had clung stubbornly to our footwear.

In the rows of houses, we saw samples of the people's works, such as carved boats, *baul*, tables, *sakub* of the *kris* and the *kampilan*, a pair of *sarimanok* wrought from silver priced at P12,000, and a brass mail made from about 10 kilos of brass rods which could be had for P30,000.

Hassan Maliawao, 28, was the first craftsman we met that day. At 12 years old, he already learned how to carve a *baul* from *basudan* wood found in the forests of Madalum town.

As Hassan chiseled in the okir and diamond designs into the baul, he said he and his fellow craftsmen of Barangay Sumbaga Rogong had learned to shape the wood without machines. Tapping at the *baul* stand, he confessed that this part was more difficult to fashion than any other.


SWORDSMITH Guzman Maliawao in his primitive forge

Rare narra 'baul'

As he rose from his work, he told us he could finish a large 16-by-32-inch *baul* in seven days.

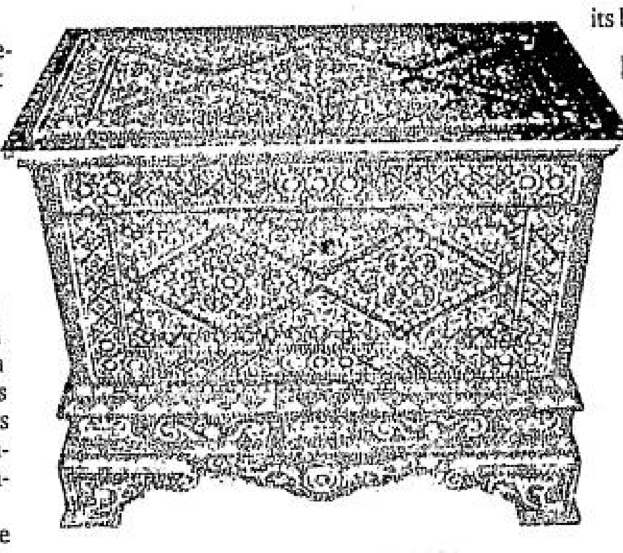
Hassan then invited us into the living room of his house that also doubled as the family's sleeping quarters. Some of the finished products we saw inside were multipurpose tables and elegantly designed headboards made from *nilo* wood. He pointed to us some of the old *baul* made of narra and said, "Nobody makes narra *baul* anymore," a consequence of the ban on cutting narra trees.

In an adjoining house, we saw elderly, *malong*-clad women huddled in the kitchen watching us leave Hassan's house. We bent as we climbed down the bamboo stairs to view the already lined-up reddish-brown and black *baul* of all sizes ready for shipment. Their shiny surfaces and whitish in-lay of *capiz* shells done by Maranao women looked gossamer in that soggy morning.

Without the middleman, the *baul* cost from P300 to P1,500 apiece, depending on their sizes. The biggest *baul* could make an excellent bridal chest and centerpiece in any home or office. With these pieces, a family could earn P4,000-P7,000 a month from buyers coming from the cities of Marawi, Iligan, Cagayan de Oro, Cotabato and Manila.

Hassan likewise told us that government troops often dropped by the town to buy their products.

But as Hassan and his co-worker, Jamal Ali, 27, would put it, they have seen better days. Once, Department of Trade and Industry representatives monitored their work, too, with Hassan gesturing toward a shell of a wooden structure that used to be the DTI office.


FINISHED "baul" selling price: P4,000 to P7,000

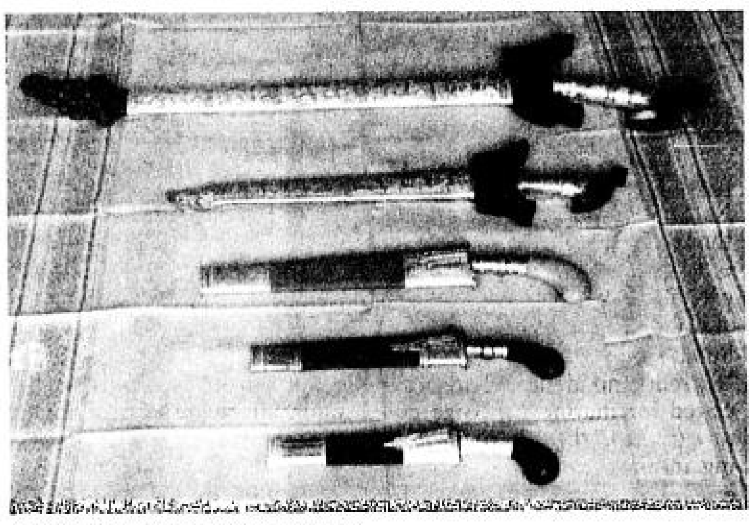
Lean days

But business isn't as brisk these days, they complained. Hard wood was getting more difficult to get because of the unstable peace and order situation in the Lanao area.

Production, too, slows down on certain days because of power outages, and they could hardly see their work in dingy workshops. On top of this, several young craftsmen have found other lucrative means of earning a living by selling assorted items in Manila.

Still, the optimism to keep alive their ancestors' arts and crafts is strong among the Maranao.

We discovered that every barangay in Tugaya has its own specialty. We were not able to see the brass works in Barangay Bubong (perhaps, at some future time). But the locals regaled us with stories of how guns and coins used to be manufactured there.


DIFFERENT kinds of Moro blades

In Barangay Raya, where makers of the *kris*, *kampilan* and *sarimanok* live, we met Omair Maripada, 30, hammering into shape a bronze *sakub* with gold plating.

Maripada said he could finish one *sakub* from 10 days to four months depending on how ornate the okir carvings were. He showed us a finished *sakub* of a *kris*, and we gushed over the solidly carved handle and the geometric waves and swirls on the covering of its brass surface.

Meeting the masters

A steep climb farther up a hill enabled us to meet the famous *kris* and bolo maker, Gusman Maliawao, 70, who, like his brother, Abdullah, 60, is a former blacksmith of the town.

The youthful-looking Gusman demonstrated his skill in shaping a bolo by heating first and pounding next the glowing metal on the anvil in the workshed beside his home. Through our interpreter, Dr. Latiph, we asked several questions on craftsmanship, as well as about rituals craftsmen were known to perform to ensure the success of their works and which are detailed in the book, "The Remarkable Maranaws," by Abdullah Madale.

But Gusman shook his head indicating that he didn't need any ritual to be able to do his work. Of course, there could be some confusion in Madale's book, because the craftsman is equated with the artist. Having witnessed Tugaya craftsmen bent over their work, however, we could understand why Madale blurred the distinction between "artist" and "craftsman."

And it is understandable for Maranao craftsmen, like Gusman and Abdullah, not to call on the "Darangen" epic's "art patron" *Tominaman sa Rogong* for inspiration. The okir patterns have been handed down to them by their ancestors and whether carving on wood or on brass, they could forget to petition a mythic god or even remember that art was "discovered" for them, as the myth would have it.

In Madale's book, an apprentice craftsman kills a chicken and smears the blood on his tools like the bolo, ax, chisel and other fine-tools for carving, concluding this ritual with a feast. He likewise includes the story of Prince Bantogen's father, King of Bembaran Tominaman sa Rogong's "discovery" of art and how he showcased his "discovered" designs and colors on the magical boat, the Rinamentaw Mapalaw, whose beauty rivaled the rainbow.

Madale further said Tominaman sa Rogong died soon after he "discovered" art.

But the author, Batua Macaraya, who, along with others, collected and translated the epic explained that the magical boat *Rinamentaw Mapalaw* was a gift from the *tonong* (spirits) to Prince Bantogen's grandfather, Diwatandao Gibon, and therefore, was already well-decorated by the gods. He said Tominaman sa Rogong's reputation as "patron of the arts" rested on his "beautifying" the *torogan* of Bembaran.

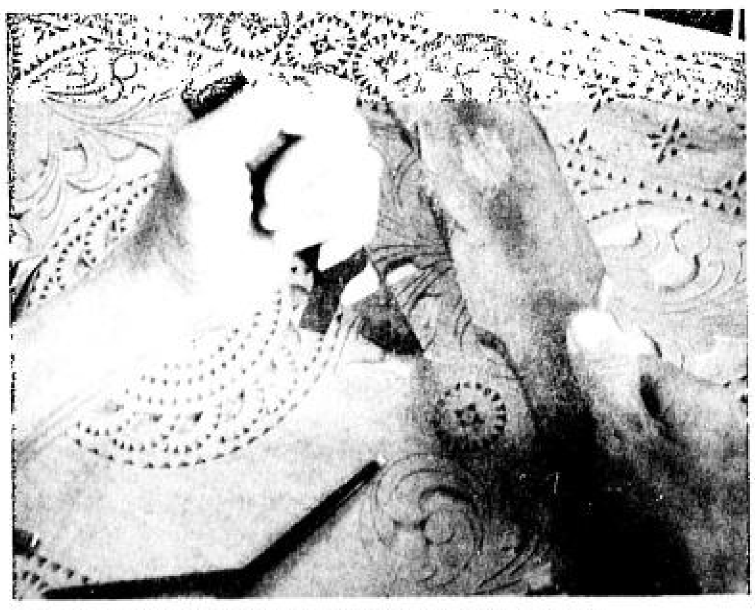
The revered king died of old age, Macaraya added.

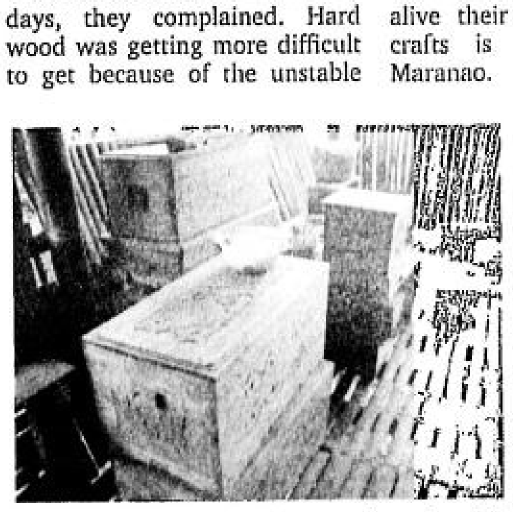
Theories of origin

There are many theories about the origins of wood and metal carvings in Lanao. Some of these say Lanao's first carvers first learned the craft and trade from the Chinese, Arabs and the Tausug. Another possible explanation is that the first Maranao in Mindanao brought with them their craft from a place near Malaysia where they were said to have originated.

Although we found during our visit in Tugaya that the craftsmen don't believe in rituals anymore, we learned something more significant—the craftsmen know how to combine artistry and business. Beauty is a given in their works, they say, and in order for these to be appreciated, they must be sold as well.

And it seems the craftsmen have all their lives to pass on their knowledge to their children who, literally, grow up in the midst of this industry. To the Maranao, passing on these arts and crafts to the next generation has become a duty.


CARVING the intricate okir pattern of a treasure chest


STILL more work to be done on these "bauls"

A CHILD of war ends up weary, homeless in an evacuation center like the one in Pikit, Cotabato. EDWIN BACASMAS

Palace going full blast on Cha-cha

From page A1

part of the Palace secretariat in charge of Charter change.

Palace target: May 2004

Gonzales said his target is to have the amendments passed and ratified in a plebiscite in time for the May 2004 polls.

He wants the new Constitution to take effect as early as 2007.

But other members of the study group like former UP president Jose Abueva wants the shift to occur not earlier than 2010.

Pro-Charter change groups are pressed for time. Lawmakers are still locked in debate over the mode of amending the Constitution.

The Senate wants an elected constitutional convention (Con-con). But the two bills calling for a Con-con are still pending at the committee on constitutional amendments, revision of codes and laws.

Another proposal before the Senate is to allow the people themselves to vote in a national referendum which of two options—Con-con or a constituent assembly—they favor.

The House of Representatives at the initiative of Speaker Jose de Venecia wants to amend the Charter through a constituent assembly (Consa). After months of debates, last March the House adopted Resolution 16 by a vote of 134-13. It calls for a change in the form of government and the abolition of restrictive economic provisions in the Constitution.

The Lakas national directorate decided early this month to throw its support behind De Venecia's campaign for Charter change through a consa over the objections of Vice President Teofisto Guingona, who's the president of the ruling Lakas-CMD.

The 'how' is unimportant

"In August we will know if it will be a Con-con or a Consa," said Gonzales, adding that the mode was not important as long as their inputs were incorporated.

The study group's inputs include a shift to a federal and parliamentary form of government and reforms in the judiciary and economy.

Also earlier this month, her spokesperson, Ignacio Bunye said President Macapagal was not objecting to Charter change although it was not her own personal priority but the country's more pressing problems.

But she is distancing herself from the debate, according to Gonzales.

"She's not opposed to Charter change. She just doesn't want the perception that she will use it for her own ends," he said.

On Friday, the Palace-backed study group held a forum in Makati to discuss their proposed amendments with Gonzales giving the keynote speech.

Among those at the forum were Abueva, former solicitor general Raul Goco, former Philconsa president and UP Law dean Froilan Bacungan, UP political science professor and former president of the National Defense College of the Philippines Clarita Carlos, former ambassador to Italy Jose Romero, FEU law dean Andres Bautista, political analyst Joel Rocamora, retired Supreme Court justice Justo Torres, Philippine Bar Association president Rolando de la Cuesta, executive director of the Local Government Development Foundation Gaudioso Sosmeña, former Integrated Bar of the Philippines president Mervyn Encanto and Philconsa board member Amado Gat. Inciong.

Macapagal vs Arroyo

From page A1

gal-Arroyo's half-brother, Arturo Macapagal, is contemplating on running for congressman of the district, but so is her son, Pampanga Vice Gov. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo.

Macapagal said he has not talked with the President or with Arroyo about his political plans.

"But I will not compete with Mikey for the President's support. I will instead count on the people's response," said the eldest son of the late President Diosdado Macapagal by his first wife, Purita de la Rosa, younger sister of the late Rogelio de la Rosa, the pre-war king of Philippine movies.

Macapagal, 60, has been holding caucuses and consultations with residents of the second district for several months now in preparation for his candidacy.

When asked during a meeting on Friday with the Society of Pampanga Columnists whether he would pursue his political plan if his nephew ran for the same post, Macapagal said his decision will not be based on his nephew's plans "but on the people's response" to his candidacy.

Macapagal said that so far, the people in Pampanga's second district have "warmly" welcomed his candidacy.

The second congressional district covers the towns of Lubao (the Macapagals' hometown), Guagua, Floridablanca, Porac, Sta. Rita and Sasmuan.

Earlier, the provincial federation of the Association of Barangay Captains led by Board Member Mark Lapid, son of Gov. Manuel Lapid, endorsed Arroyo's candidacy as congressman of the second district.

Pa urged him to run

Macapagal said his late father had urged him to run for the congressional post of their home district.

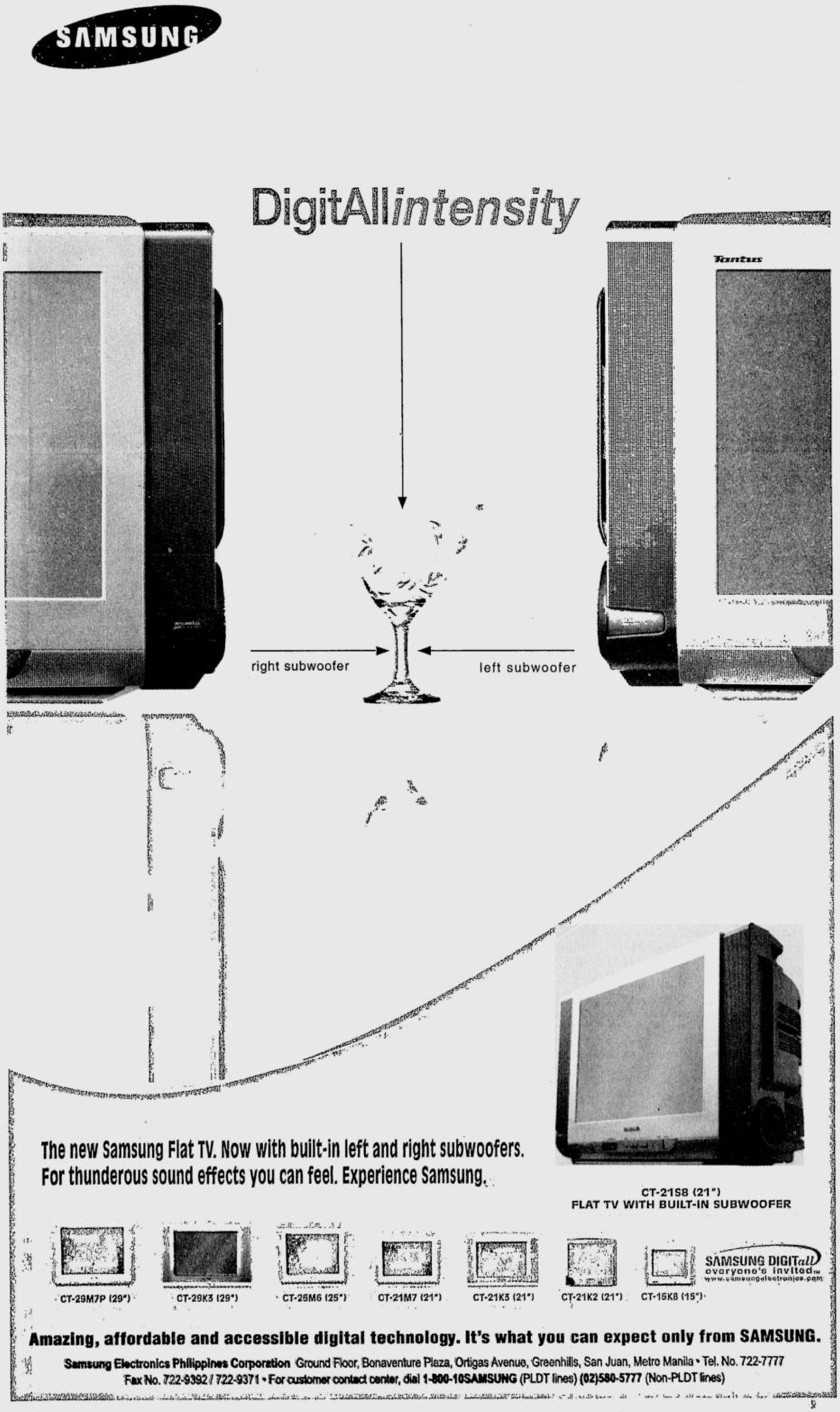
"He said many (people) would be willing to help me. I used to tell him not to worry because someday I will be representing our district. But he passed away before I was able to fulfill my promise," he said.

He could have been the governor of Pampanga in 1971 or a congressman in 1987 but he declined the offers of then Governors Jose Lingad and Bren Guiao to enter politics.

Today, Macapagal said he has run out of excuses to avoid politics. He said he has been in the private sector for many years and has already fulfilled his obligations to his family.

Macapagal said he will not enter into a political compromise on his plans for the 2004 elections.

He would not even accept any appointive position if the President offered it, he said.



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Executions in Davao: Duterte 'special project' eyed

DAVAO CITY—The past few days here have seen the summary execution of suspected drug pushers and other criminals, including an ex-cop on Mayor Rodrigo Duterte's list.

Johnny Olarte, 42, a former intelligence operative of the Davao City Police Office, had just stood as a wedding sponsor and was leaving the Sta. Ana Church at around 11:30 a.m. Friday when he was shot dead by two men on a motorcycle.

The killing occurred five days after Duterte announced in his weekly TV program that he had a "special project" for offenders in uniform.

The mayor, famous for his tough anti-crime stance, even said he would "finish off" such offenders if they refused to reform. Olarte was one of six policemen whom he named as drug traffickers.

Shortly after the Olarte slay, gunmen killed Nombraan Sultan near the Mercury Drug Store in Bankerohan.

Earlier that day, security guard Marcelito Ragamo was killed in Lanang District. Police said the two gunmen ran toward a waiting motorcycle and sped off.

On Wednesday night, motorcycle-riding men shot dead Allan Garces, also a former policeman, along Trading Boulevard.

On Thursday evening, another man suspected to be a drug pusher was killed in San Isidro, Buhangin district.

The motorcycle-riding gunmen believed to be members of the Davao Death Squad are also targeting those believed involved in other crimes.

On Monday afternoon, two suspected pickpockets were killed on Quezon Boulevard as soon as they were freed from detention.

On Tuesday afternoon, an alleged leader of a robbery gang was shot dead inside a videoke house in Toril district. A suspected thief was found dead later in the day in Mandug, Buhangin.

The killings have alarmed residents, who say this method of addressing crime can adversely affect the city's image.

Carlos Isagani Zarate, president of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines-Davao City chapter, noted that those killed were from the poor and most vulnerable sector of society.

In a statement issued on behalf of the IBP, Zarate said denying the suspected criminals due process of law made their deaths "doubly tragic."

Zarate said the IBP agreed that solving the growing crime problem, particularly the illegal drug trade, was a serious concern confronting the government and the community.

"[But] this seemingly unabated problem of wholesale murder is a clear sign of the breakdown in law and order, a travesty against the justice system," he said. *Anthony S. Allada and Joselle R. Badilla, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

It's '4 aces' versus drugs

From page A1

fore the meeting.

Barbers said that with Lim's expertise and the combined experience of Jaylo and Margallo, "we can help the drug campaign become successful."

He said it would be a "long war," but added: "We will win the fight, I'm very confident of that."

When Lim headed the WPD, Barbers served as his chief of operations and official spokesperson. Jaylo and Margallo led special teams under Barbers' supervision.

Lim brought the three to the NBI when he became its director in 1990.

Barbers was designated chief of the NBI Special Task Force, with Jaylo and Margallo heading a special team attached to it.

The team quickly gained national prominence with the high-profile arrest of known drug traffickers like Jose "Don Pepe" Oyson.

Oyson was killed while being escorted to detention, allegedly for trying to grab a policeman's handgun.

Dramatic results

Barbers promised a "dramatic" solution to the problem in due time.

"There's no turning back," he said, but asked the public to be patient and not to expect the team to work within a Malacañang-specified time frame.

Barbers said his offer to resign as senator if the President appointed him leader of the war on drugs "still stands."

"The opposition thinks I am merely politicking. Now, everybody knows that I mean what I say," he said. "I will resign for the sake of our countrymen. I can surrender the power, influence and prominence of my office just to help in the fight against drugs, [whose proliferation] is already very alarming."

But the President said there was no need for Barbers to resign.

Speaking in a TV interview over "Kapihan sa RPN," she said that she had given Barbers blanket authority over the anti-drug campaign of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA), and that he could give broad directions in his capacity as chair of the Senate committee on illegal drugs.

Ms Macapagal said Barbers could even lead field operations against drug syndicates if he wanted to.

"And I will not stand in the way of his powers as oversight chair of our enforcement agencies," she said. "I will not shelve his initiatives, I will not cramp his style."

She also said she had instructed PDEA chief Anselmo Avenido and the anti-drug task forces to follow Barbers' command.

She said she would meet with Barbers, Avenido and various law enforcers to ensure that they obey the senator's "operational directives."

4 directions

Ms Macapagal brushed aside questions concerning the opposition's charge that the government was going after Sen. Panfilo Lacson, who has been linked to illegal drugs, to derail his planned candidacy for president.

"Instead of going to those details, I have given [Avenido] my four strategic directions" to the anti-drug campaign, she said.

She listed these as:

- To make drugs inaccessible and more expensive to users in order to erode supply lines.
- To concentrate in the areas of highest trafficking intensity to put pressure on points of highest profitability.
- To concentrate on exposing the big fish at the highest possible levels, with police and government patrons as priority.
- To stop drug use before it starts at the most vulnerable age levels, requiring the combined efforts of homes, communities, schools and civil society.

According to the President, to say that Avenido will be under Barbers is "too limiting a term."

"Because [Barbers] has oversight function, his oversight jurisdiction will be the basis and Avenido has to comply with his directions," she said.

Told that Barbers, a former police officer and interior secretary, still had a "police mentality" and would insist on taking part in operations, the President said: "There's no prohibition for him to join the operations to see if what the operatives are doing is correct."

She said Avenido could also form a special operations group that Barbers would personally direct.

Superbody

Barbers said that his role as anti-drug czar was still "in the newspapers," and that Ms Macapagal had yet to personally inform him of his functions and powers.

"We will ask the President to form a special civilian body with the power to select its own personnel from the Armed Forces, Philippine National Police and NBI, or create another government agency," he said.

The team, he said, should have the right to handpick men with "competence, integrity and knowledge in the campaign against drugs."

Barbers said that while the PDEA was a "civilian office," there was still a need for a superbody to oversee operations.

"This superbody will coordinate with the PNP and PDEA in matters relating to the campaign," he said, adding that without this, "we will have limited powers."

No evidence

Avenido said the PDEA had no evidence to link Lacson to the trade in illegal drugs.

But he said the agency would look into the matter once the results of the Senate investigation of Lacson's alleged links to drug trafficking were officially released.

"We have no information [as to Lacson's drug links]," Avenido said yesterday in a forum at the Sulo Hotel in Quezon City. "We've been told that everything has been presented before the Senate."

He said the PDEA decided not to initiate an inquiry in order to avoid "duplication," noting that by the time the agency was formed in July 2002, the Senate had completed its hearings.

"When we asked what role the PDEA would play in the investigation, we were told that we should just wait for the results of the Senate hearing ..." he said. "Had we conducted our own investigation, that would have been a duplication."

Senate Committee Report No. 66 recommends that the Department of Justice pursue the investigation of Lacson and other police officers for alleged involvement in organized crimes such as drug trafficking and kidnapping for ransom.

It was to be taken up by the Senate in a plenary session before the chamber adjourned on June 6, but Lacson and other opposition senators did not show up.

Avenido said that making significant headway in the anti-drug campaign, such as neutralizing a third of the 175 identified syndicates, within the three-month deadline set by Ms Macapagal was "doable."

He said the campaign was not aimed at members of the opposition.

"We have no operation targeting the opposition alone. Whoever is going to be busted here, whether a member of the administration or the opposition, we're going to file charges against him," Avenido said, adding:

"Nobody can say that we have an agenda or we are giving too much attention to the opposition."

He was reacting to comments by Lacson's camp that the revived allegations against the senator were part of a smear campaign.

Lacson himself reiterated that his conscience was clear.

In a statement issued yesterday, he said Senate Committee Report No. 66 had been rendered moot because the Ombudsman's Office had cleared him of drug trafficking and kidnapping charges.

Lacson said he would be happy to furnish the media copies of the Ombudsman resolution. "I will do that during my press conference at the Senate on Monday," he said. *With a report from TJ Burgonio*

15,000 children mobilized vs drugs

AS many as 15,000 children have been deputized by President Macapagal-Arroyo in the concerted fight against the trade in illegal drugs.

Aged 6-12 and coming from all over Metro Manila, the children registered as members of the Bida Club during the formal launch last night of the "Batang Iwas Droga" at the Rizal Park.

The children will be tapped to spread the anti-drug message and to influence their families, schools and communities to stop drug use and convert their areas into "drug-free communities."

To enforce the campaign, the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. has produced an animated TV series dubbed "Batang Iwas Droga, Bida ng Matatag na Republika."

A Pagcor handout said the TV series would feature the story of three extraordinary children—Luzy, Victor and Mindo, representing, obviously, Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

"They are orphans who are blessed with superhuman powers and the destiny to protect the people, most especially the youth. They are discovered by the [Pagcor] chair, a powerful individual who formed the Bida organization with the sole purpose of stopping the manufacture, sale and use of prohibited substances," the handout read.

Although the "new force" was born of the slums, the three heroes possess "unique abilities" and are equipped with "high-tech gadgetry and cool combat uniforms," according to the script.

Luzy possesses the power of premonition or the ability to see the future. She is a skilled gymnast and an expert in handling the *alumpay*.

Victor has telekinesis or the ability to move objects with his mind. He wields a yo-yo and has great courage.

Mindo has the ability to stop time and is a master of *arnis*.

"Under the guidance of the chair, the three superheroes hone their abilities and pool their strengths to fight against the devious forces of the Octopus Network and the cruel drug lord, Drol Kia," the script said.

"In each action-packed episode; they will bravely face their adversaries and emerge triumphant. Through their example, they will teach young audiences on how they can become Bida, too," it said.

The President took a direct hand in the anti-drug fight after official figures showed that 3.4 million to 9 million Filipinos were hooked on illegal drugs.

She has ordered the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency to wipe out at least a third of the 175 drug syndicates in the country. *Juliet Labog-Javellana*

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Lt. Col. Antonio L. Tamayo, FPCHA, Phd
President and Chairman of the Board
University of Perpetual Help System

BEN MOSES EBREO/NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

OUT of their cage, Maryjoyce, Maryjane, Maryrose and Marygrace will now have a terrace to be constructed by DSWD personnel as their playroom, adjacent to where their widowed mother tends her store in Barangay Quirino, Bagabag, Nueva Vizcaya.

'Caged' quadruplets released…

From page A1

Padilla said the pledges and donations came in time as the funds intended for the children were nearly depleted.

"My plan is to close their bank account and turn over the remaining amount to Elizabeth and encourage her to open an account in Bayombong where interested donors can send their donations," he said.

He said they did not close the account when the fund raising campaign for the Cerezo children ended in 2001 because he was informed that a donor would send another amount through the bank account.

Padilla said his office had already given the bulk of the funds to Elizabeth.

He said the account now contains only more than P7,000.

Padilla said Elizabeth earlier asked his permission to use the money intended for the children to repair their house and open a store so she could earn for the family.

"I was very careful in disbursing the money. I keep all the receipts for accounting purposes," he said.

Padilla said he asked Elizabeth to use the money "wisely and properly."

Medical needs

Elizabeth admitted receiving the money from Padilla, but said she had spent part of it for the medical needs of the quadruplets.

"I used it to buy medicines, vitamins, food and other necessities for my children. They got sick for some time because I could no longer focus on them while managing my business. There was a time when I could no longer work because my children were sick," she said.

She said she earlier took the quadruplets to a hospital after they suffered from dehydration.

Elizabeth said she also used part of the amount to buy additional materials for their house.

"Gov. (Rodolfo) Agbayani only gave us materials for our house, but that was not enough so I used some of the amount to complete it. I never wasted a centavo of the children's fund. I used it for our needs, for the children," she said.

The 'crib'

Officials of the local social welfare and development office also asked Elizabeth not to use the wooden cage, which she calls a "crib," to restrict the movements of her children.

"I was told that what I was doing was a violation of children's rights. But I was only doing it to protect them," she said.

Elizabeth said local officials and social welfare personnel have agreed to build a terrace near their house where the quadruplets would be asked to stay while she tended her store.

Pope names temporary replacement for Bacani

From page A1

and continues …, just putting aside everything that has been (happening in) the past few weeks, and the diocese of Novaliches will go on under the leadership of the (administrator) as it continues as if the case did not concern this diocese," Franco said.

The Apostolic Nunciature statement explained that the nomination of an apostolic administrator means that the Holy See is still examining the allegations against Bacani.

It added that Tobias, who celebrated his 62nd birthday last June 13, will continue to remain bishop of San Fernando, La Union.

A concelebrated Mass to be led by Tobias will be held on Friday but Church officials emphasized that Tobias would not be "installed" bishop of Novaliches.

No suspension

Franco said Bacani has not been suspended nor has the bishop taken a leave of absence. He reiterated that Bacani left the Philippines on June 9 to visit his ailing mother in the United States.

He added that contrary to speculations, Bacani has not been ordered to come back to the country.

The Apostolic Nunciature statement said it hoped that the announcement would "ease the tension already created and will discourage damaging speculations and destructive expressions against both parties," referring to Bacani, 63, and his 34-year-old secretary.

The statement named Bacani's secretary.

But she herself has not used her real name and only used an alias, "Carolyn," in an open letter obtained by media last week.

"The dignity, liberty and rights of (Bacani) and his former secretary, xxx, are of paramount importance and deserve to be properly respected," the statement said.

Let Vatican investigate

Franco said Bacani and the secretary have "freely and willingly" entrusted the investigation to the Holy See, which is "resolved to uphold the truth."

Franco said he had talked to the secretary but he refused to give details of the alleged sexual misconduct committed by Bacani, saying the secretary's privacy should be respected.

News reports have said that the secretary told church officials that Bacani had made sexual advances toward her twice, the latest in March when he tried to hug her. The secretary, who worked for him for five years, has resigned.

The reports shocked many Filipinos because the scandal involved a popular opponent of former dictator Ferdinand Marcos.

Bacani had issued a statement apologizing to priests, followers and his secretary, saying he was "deeply sorry for the consequences of any inappropriate expression of affection to my secretary."

His spokesman, the Rev. Romulo Rañada, had said Bacani's actions did not constitute sexual harassment.

The Philippine Catholic Church last year publicly apologized for sexual abuses committed by Filipino priests, but insisted that a majority of clergymen remained faithful to their vows.

The Church also admitted that some 200 priests had been investigated for sexual misconduct over the past 20 years. Some of them were dismissed, while most resigned voluntarily. *With a report from AP, AFP*

PAPAL Nuncio Franco insists Bishop Bacani has not been suspended; Bacani's spokesperson Rev. Romulo Rañada (at right) insists Bacani's actions did not constitute sexual harassment.

JOAN BONDOC

Mission is divine …

From page A1

"But we are willing to stand up once again," he said. "I feel that people should be a little bit more charitable toward priests who make mistakes. It is just like being in the family: We have our mistakes and we forgive each other."

The public should also realize that there is a human side to the priesthood, Cabueñas pointed out.

"The mission is really divine but the instrument is, unfortunately, all too human," he said.

Fr. Romulo Ponte, parish priest of Pangil, Laguna, admitted having relationships when he was in college, although not sufficiently serious for him to want to get married. Through it all, the calling to serve the Church was ever present.

He recalled that in his youth, he thought emotions or desire toward the opposite sex would automatically vanish once he entered the seminary.

"I learned soon enough that it was not the case," Ponte, now 45, told the INQUIRER. "This was why there was tension within myself—if I should continue to be a priest or leave."

It was also one of the reasons he spent two years away from the seminary to search his soul and determine for himself whether he would, or could, dedicate his life to the Church.

"I wanted to have 100-percent certainty that the priesthood was really my vocation," he said. "But my spiritual director, a Jesuit, told me that we can never attain full certainty and yet we can, through God's grace, try to be as faithful as we can."

The certainty that suffuses newly ordained priests occasionally wavers as the years pass and they are exposed to the daily rigors of serving Church and flock.

The rigors are not imaginary. Priests have no fixed salary; they depend on the kindness of their parishioners, and retirement and hospitalization plans are for most only a dream.

Loneliness

According to Fr. Ben Noroña, guest priest at the Parish of the Holy Sacrifice at the University of the Philippines, the difficulties become even more pronounced in remote areas where priests are obliged to make do with a monthly income of less than P4,000.

But more than the meager income, priests in the rural areas wage a relentless battle with loneliness, said Noroña, 51.

"Convents in the provinces are usually separate from the rest of the town, and the priest is usually alone," he said. "And just like other people, priests get lonely. We seek friends who will listen, who will sympathize. We long for affirmation and someone to talk problems over with."

Complications arise when a friendship develops into something more serious and causes a priest to break his vows, Norona said.

"Otherwise, it is really healthy for a priest to have friendships," he said. "You just have to be truthful to yourself and be able to know the limits of any relationship. If not, then you should be ready to face the consequences of your actions."

The vow of celibacy is unique to the Roman Catholic clergy and has been practiced since the Middle Ages. While Church authorities say there is nothing in the New Testament that directly says priests should not marry, it has always been understood that celibacy is a necessary vow that makes it possible for priests to devote their whole selves in the service of the Church.

At the ordination ceremony, the bishop solemnly warns the would-be priest of the gravity of his obligation: "You will be required to continue in the service of God, and with His assistance to observe chastity and to be bound for ever in the ministrations of the Altar, to serve who is to reign."

Aspirants to the priesthood are taught these limits and obligation during the formation years in the major seminary.

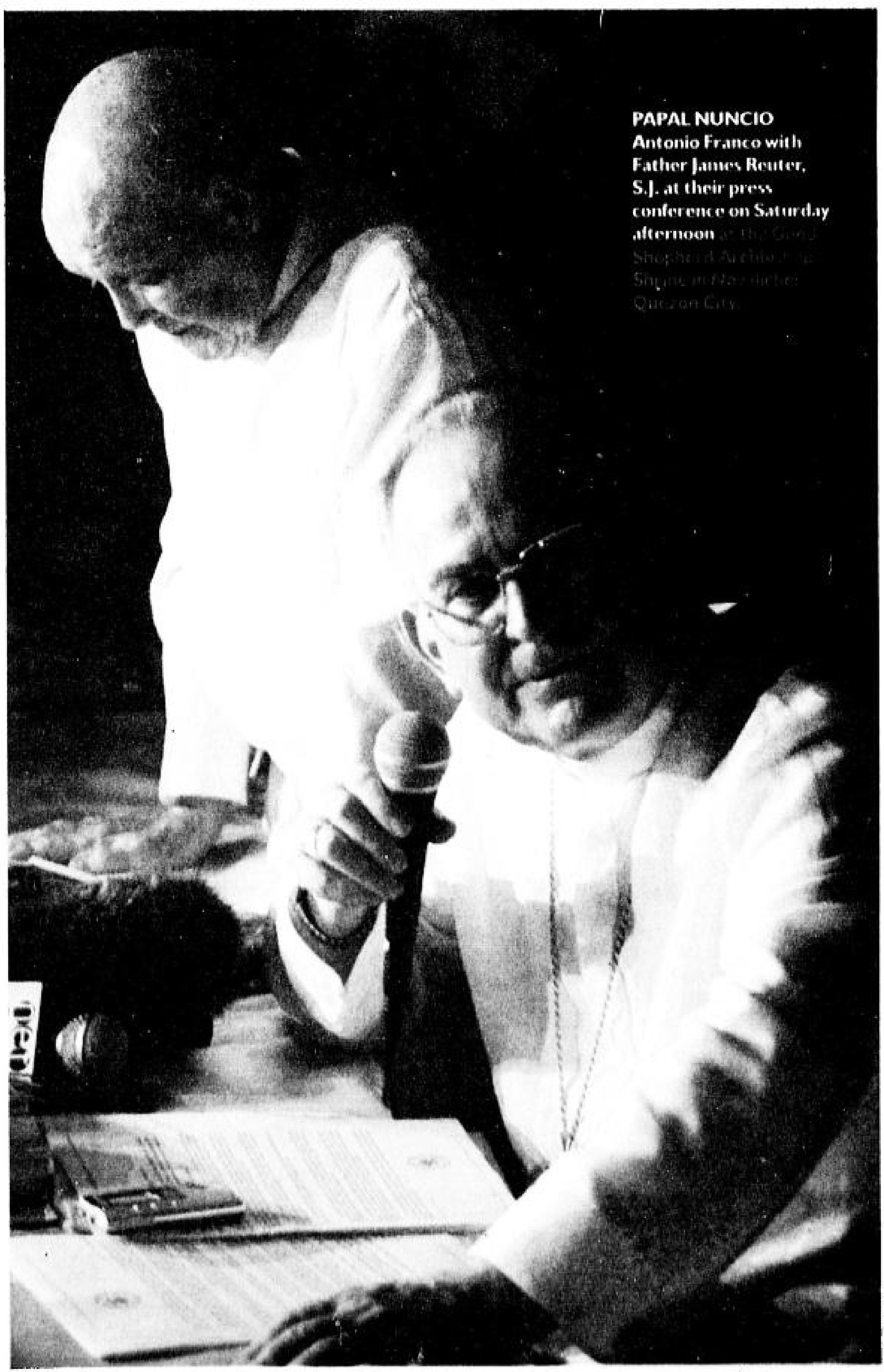
Some theological schools tend to be more conservative than the others.

There are also different types of formation, with some leaning toward a more intellectual approach to canon law and the scriptures, and others emphasizing both the intellectual and the practical approaches to the priesthood.

Humanity

Despite going through four years of theology and at least one year doing actual pastoral work with various communities, some priests fall short of the promises they made.

This is unacceptable to many Catholics, especially in the rural areas, who look up to their priests as larger than life and the very paragons of strength, honesty and dedicated service.



PAPAL NUNCIO Antonio Franco with Father James Reuter, S.J. at their press conference on Saturday afternoon at the Good Shepherd Archdiocesan Shrine in Novaliches Quezon City.

JOAN BONDOC

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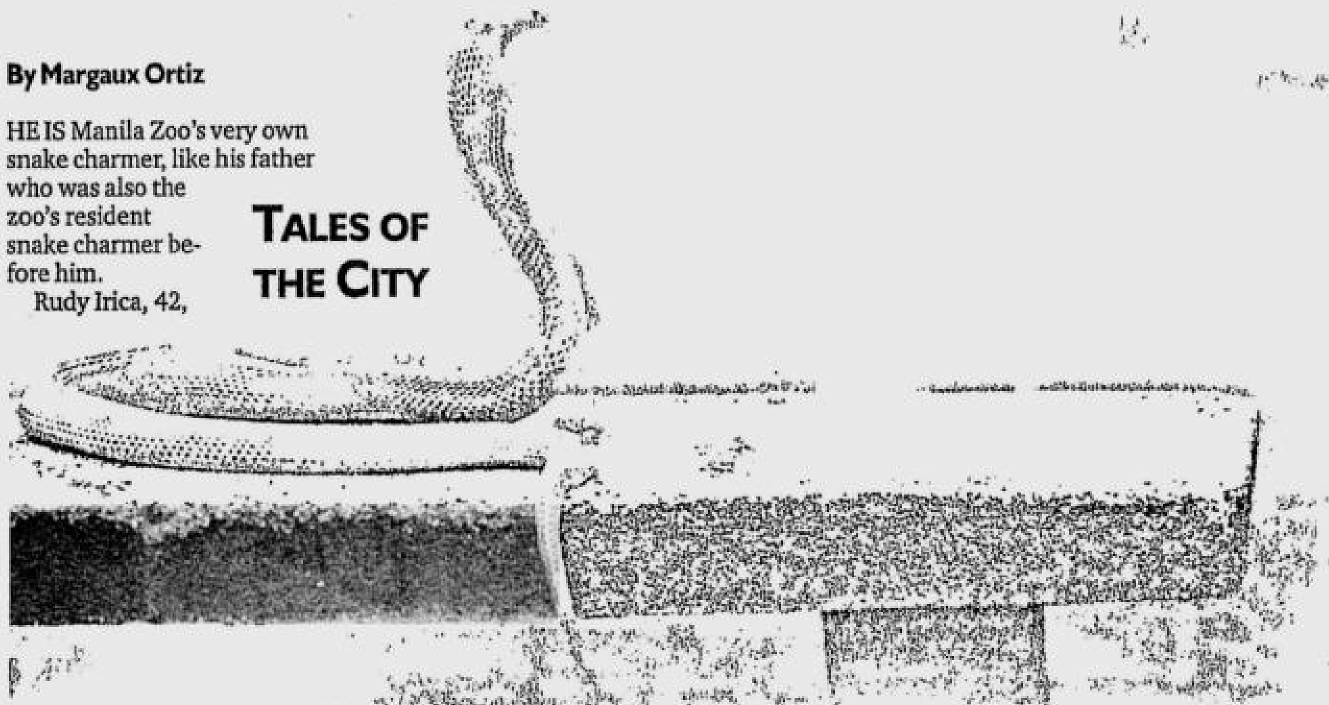
Okay, okay, 'hissy' now, baby

Trainer works his charms on zoo 'monsters'

By Margaux Ortiz

TALES OF THE CITY



IRICA shows how to handle the deadly cobra properly. His job at the Manila Zoo is deemed one of the riskiest jobs in the world.

HE IS Manila Zoo's very own snake charmer, like his father who was also the zoo's resident snake charmer before him.

Rudy Irica, 42, works as a reptile keeper at Manila Zoo. He inherited his love of reptiles from his father Celedonio, who also worked as the zoo's reptile keeper for three decades.

"My father's ability in handling dangerous animals like snakes and crocodiles was legendary," Rudy said. "He would catch venomous snakes like the Philippine spitting cobra without fear of being bitten."

Rudy's father worked as a farmer in Bicol in the early '60s. His knack for expertly catching snakes while working in the rice-fields eventually caught the Alabang Research Laboratory's attention.

The older Irica was then hired as a venom extractor in the mid 1960s.

"The Alabang Research Laboratory is the predecessor of the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine, so it was an honor for my elementary graduate father to work for them," Rudy shared.

The older Irica brought his family to Manila. After working with Alabang Research Laboratory for a few years, the Manila city government hired him as a reptile keeper for the Manila Zoo.

Rudy said he used to come to the zoo to watch his father take care of his beloved reptiles. He added that his father's genuine commitment to the snakes and crocodiles instilled in him an unusual fondness for the animals.

"I've always wanted to handle snakes and extract venom from them even when I was still four or five years old," Rudy said, laughing.

Rudy said he had dreamed of becoming a policeman but his family could not afford to send him to college. So he learned his father's tricks and eventually took over his father's job as Manila Zoo's reptile keeper when the older Irica retired in 1990.

In 1992, Rudy left the country to work as a zookeeper in Kuwait. Because he was considered as a reptile expert in his country, the plum job of Kuwait Zoo's reptile keeper was given to him.

After five years, however, Rudy decided to go back to the Philippines to be with his family.

"The pay was good and I enjoyed my job because I genuinely liked animals, but I missed my wife and children so much," he said.

"My brother Romeo, who is still has his job as a reptile keeper in Riyadh Zoo, is better at working in foreign countries than I am," he added.

When he came back to Manila, Rudy was not expecting any job offer to immediately come his way. He was ready to wait but word of mouth soon confirmed that the "snake charmer" was back in the country, and Rudy got his job back as part of the Manila Zoo family.

Today, Rudy's daily schedule begins with feeding the snakes and crocodiles. He observes them and religiously keeps records of their behavior.

The "snake charmer" is known all over the zoo for his expert handling of the reptiles. He has such a strong bond with the animals that even the wild crocodiles respond to the sound of his voice like loyal dogs.

On weekends and holidays, Rudy lectures children together with the other zoo personnel on the importance of each animal they see.

Rudy said his job is the riskiest among the animal keepers because he deals with what most people would consider as "monsters."

"But they are actually harmless if handled properly," Rudy said. "They are my babies."

He said his personal project is breeding the snakes, crocodiles, turtles, lizards and iguanas under his care to increase their population.

"My father did not think of breeding the reptiles because he believed animals were plentiful in the old days," Rudy shared. "Now, I am concerned with the endangerment of these animals so I try my best to play a part in increasing their number for the next generations of Manila Zoo visitors."

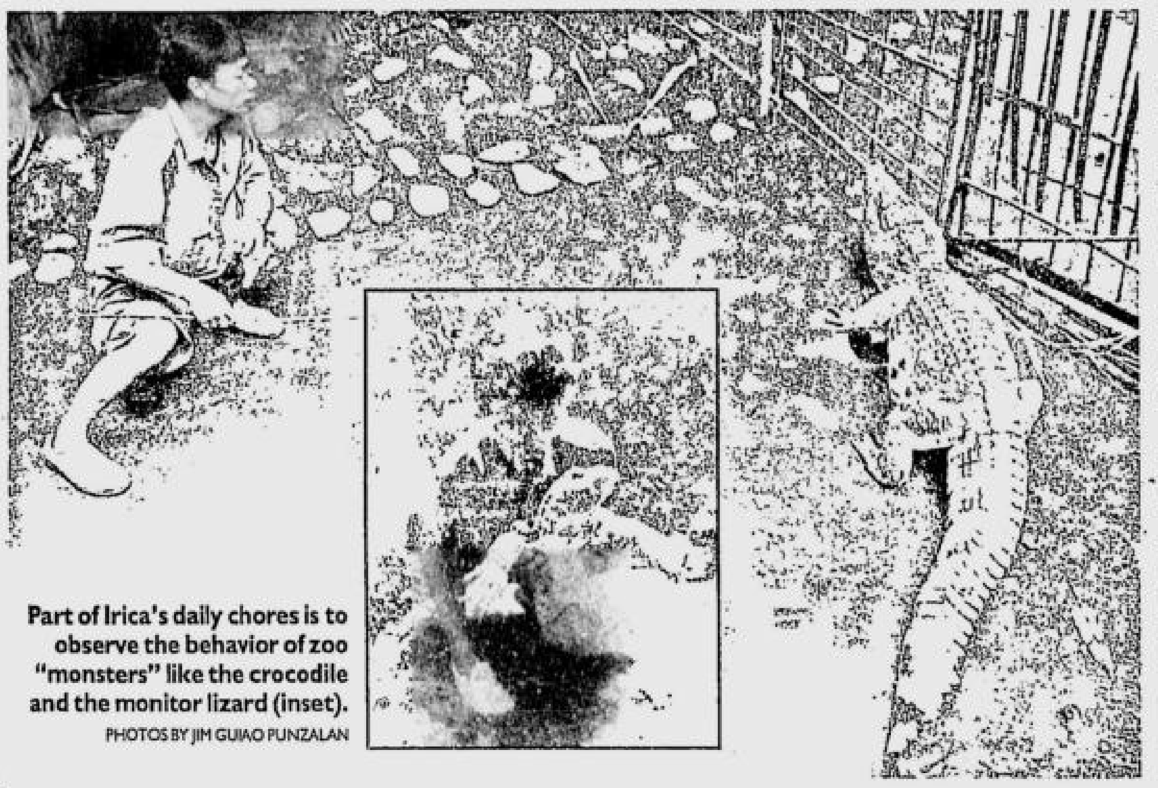
Rudy's eldest son now shows interest in his father's job, but Rudy said he makes it clear to the boy that he should first get a college education.

"He can become a veterinarian and a reptile handler at the same time," Rudy emphasized, saying that he is now working hard to give his five children a good future.

"If my son loves animals so much like I and his grandfather do, then he can get a medical degree," he added.

Rudy said that he has seen Manila Zoo deteriorate and improve over the years, saying he is glad that the government is now giving much needed attention to one of the Manila's "treasures."

"I could grow old doing his job," Rudy said. "As long as the animals here need me, I'll try my best not to have an early retirement."



Part of Irica's daily chores is to observe the behavior of zoo "monsters" like the crocodile and the monitor lizard (inset).

PHOTOS BY JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

METROBRIEFS

Estafa gang falls

ANACITO Banil, 23, Pedie Punay, 22, and Arnel Bautista alias "John Mendez," 26, have been arrested for estafa in Novaliches, Quezon City. Police said the three men passed themselves off as CDO-Foodsphere salesmen and collected "reservation fees" from sari-sari store owners in Valenzuela City. Ed Reataza, an official of CDO-Foodsphere, told police that his company does not ask "reservation fees" from their clients, adding that around 20 victims had already approached him to complain about the suspects' operation. The suspects are now detained at the Novaliches police station, said PO3 Ferdinand Gelli. *Alcuin Papa*

Sorsogon High meet

SORSOGON High School alumni are inviting all Sorsogueños to an earlier celebration of the feast of Saints Peter and Paul on June 22, Sunday, at 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., at the Veterans Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. Mass will be celebrated by Msgr. Augusto G. Laban. For information, please contact Moly Borromeo at 455-47-79, Amado Detera, 882-08-37, Rey Bautista, 711-9443, and Mila Frando, 780-28-91.

2 fires break out

FIRES broke out in Parañaque and the Manila City Hall yesterday. Manila policemen and firemen quickly put out a small fire on the 4th floor of city hall yesterday morning. PO2 Rodrigo Bolontante said a ceiling fan overheated and sparked a fire in the sala of Judge Aida Roque of Regional Trial Court Branch 25 at around 8:45 a.m. No one was reported hurt in the fire, Bolontante said. About an hour later, another fire was reported in Tahanan Village, Parañaque. SFO1 Teoderico Gatchalian Jr. said the fire started at the master bedroom of a house on Berbenia Street, owned by lawyer Gil Asoy. SFO1 Gatchalian estimated property damage at P1.5 million. Nobody was reported hurt in the fire, which was put out at 11:27 a.m. The fire also partially damaged an adjacent residence. *Leila Salaverria and Luige del Puerto*

Mauled to death

CONSTRUCTION worker Sandrix Misperos on Friday night was beaten up and killed by six of his neighbors in Quezon City. Misperos, of Barangay North Fairview, Quezon City, was watching television with his brother Sonny inside their house at around 9 p.m. when the suspects barged in and started to beat up the victim, police said. Sonny managed to escape and call for help. But when he and the barangay officials got back to the house, they found Sandrix bleeding on the floor. The victim did not make it to the hospital alive, said PO1 Edwin dela Cruz. *Alcuin Papa*

Row looms between motorists, mayors over ticketing system

By Leila Salaverria

THE DEBATE over the single ticketing system might be reduced to a dispute between motorists and mayors, an official of the Metro Manila Development Authority has said.

MMDA Traffic Operations Center Director Angelito Vergel de Dios said motorists would bear the brunt of the mayors' insistence on issuing their own tickets.

Vergel de Dios said the MMDA would also continue issuing its own ticket for traffic violations since it is the agency mandated by law to do so.

"(The motorists) are the ones who would suffer," he said in an interview. "Some transport groups have even threatened to hold a strike if the mayors push through with their plan."

The MMDA and the Metro Manila mayors are in the thick of discussions about the mayors' desire to come up with their own traffic tickets and about the MMDA's duty to impose a single ticketing system.

According to Vergel de Dios, even if the mayors continue with their plan, the MMDA would still issue their own traffic violation receipts (TVR) and would not recognize TVRs issued by a local government unit.

For instance, a city's TVR that a motorist would show in lieu of a driver's license would not be honored by an MMDA traffic enforcer, the traffic director said.

He added that the driver could be charged with driving without license or driving with a delinquent document because the TVR would only be honored in the city that released it. Only MMDA TVRs would be honored by the agency's traffic enforcers.

Vergel de Dios added that the MMDA would not want to get into a drawn-out fight with the mayors over the single ticketing system and had asked the Justice Department for a legal opinion on the matter.

A source at the MMDA said the DOJ had already penned the opinion but has yet to release it, and added that the decision generally favored the MMDA.

Metro Manila Mayors earlier said they would craft their own uniform ticket to be used by the 17 cities and municipalities in the metropolis.

But MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando had said that the mayors need not create their own ticket and could just use the MMDA TVR if they want a uniform ticket.

Vergel de Dios said yesterday that the MMDA would be willing to modify its TVR to include the local chief executives' suggestions on what they want to put on the ticket.

Man shot in front of partner, 2 kids

By Leila Salaverria

A FAMILY stroll turned bloody yesterday morning after one of their members was ambushed by a gun-toting pedestrian.

Albert Desacola, 40, alias "Balat," died at the Manila Sanitarium Hospital due to several gunshot wounds on his body.

His live-in partner, Lilia Pangilinan, 39, is also confined at the same hospital after she was shot when she tried to defend Desacola.

Investigation showed that Desacola, Pangilinan and their two children were walking along Maginhawa Street in Pasay around 12:45 a.m. when an unidentified man walked past them, pulled out a .45 gun and shot Desacola several times.

The gunman then boarded a waiting motorcycle.

None of the children were hurt.

Woman using young son as drug courier arrested

By Alcuin Papa

THE GOVERNMENT'S war on drugs is sparing no one as Quezon City police arrested the other day a mother who uses his young son as a courier.

The mother was identified as Rosana Andes, 30, of 186-2 Kapaligan St., Barangay Dona Imelda, Quezon City.

Also arrested was Ronald Carino, 22, a mechanic, of Villa España, Barangay Tatalon, Quezon City.

Investigation showed a team from the Galas Police Station led by SPO4 Rene Cruz had accosted Carino the other day during a routine patrol in Barangay Tatalon and found a plastic sachet of shabu in his pocket.

Carino pointed to Andes as his source of the drug. The policemen then accosted Andes who was with her 5-year-old son Anthony but found no drugs on her. But when they inspected Anthony's short pants, they found a plastic sachet of shabu in the pockets.

Police said they had been informed that Rosana frequently used her son as a courier of the drugs she was selling.

Meanwhile, government anti-drug agents held a Japanese national after he was caught trying to transport the regulated sedative diazepam out of the country last Friday.

Nightclub owner Kenichi Takahashi, 27, was held after an inspection found numerous pills of the drug in his luggage as he prepared to board a flight back to Narita, Japan. *With a report from AFP*

Cop wanted for various crimes held

By Jerome Aning

A JUNIOR policeman said to be a drug dependent and allegedly involved in various robberies was arrested by barangay authorities in Quezon City before dawn yesterday.

Suspect PO3 Joel Torres, who is assigned to the municipal police in San Pedro, Laguna, was collared in Barangay Holy Spirit around 4 a.m.

He was turned over to the Department of the Interior and Local Government's Task Force Jericho.

Task Force Jericho's legal and investigation division head Chief Insp. Eduardo Velena said Torres was sought for a string of petty crimes in Holy Spirit, where the suspect and his brother reside.

Velena said the policeman had allegedly held up between six to eight people in the past few months.

One of the complainants, Manuela Palmes, said she was walking along St. Vincent Street on May 28 when the suspect grabbed her handbag, which contained her cellphone and P2,000 cash.

A 17-year-old youth, also a Holy Spirit resident, said the suspect poked a gun at him and grabbed his cellphone a few weeks ago.

"I never saw you in my whole life," was Torres' reply when confronted by the complainants at the Jericho office.

Velena said Torres is also implicated in the recent shooting and wounding of a beautician. He added that the policeman was even petitioned by Holy Spirit residents for being rowdy and for alleged drug addiction.

SUERTRES
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E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph

METRO

Editor **Abelardo S. Ulanday**

6/42 Luzon
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11 14 25 30 33 40

IN THE NAME OF BIG BUSINESS
Students and teachers of the University of the Philippines in Diliman held a rally yesterday to condemn House Bill 455 and Senate Bill 2587. They claimed that the measures will serve only the interests of big business and corporate raiders. JOAN BONDOC

Lax QC cops to get ax

By Alcuin Papa, Luige del Puerto and Tina Santos

THE AX is threatening to fall on lax and underperforming members of the Quezon City police.

Chief Supt. Napoleon Castro, city police chief, warned the lawmen that entire units are in danger of getting sacked if they fail to put a dent on the drug trade in Quezon City.

Castro, Central Police District director, on Thursday stepped up the pressure on his men, especially those assigned in the different drug enforcement units in Quezon City.

"I have given orders to the district drug enforcement group, all the way down to the station level, to intensify their (anti-drug) efforts, or else I will replace them all," Castro said.

Members of Quezon City's anti-narcotics units have reason to fear Castro's warning: Last April, Castro fired all lawmen belonging to CPD's Drug Enforcement Unit based in Camp Karingal after he found out that most were engaged in nefarious activities.

The CPD's Drug Enforcement Unit has since been replaced with the Anti-Drugs Special Task Group whose members report directly to Castro.

President Macapagal-Arroyo has recently given the Philippine National Police three months to go after drug syndicates in the country.

Seeing the growing threat of illegal drugs, the President has also asked Senator Robert Barbers to spearhead the government's anti-drugs campaign.

Drug testing

The campaign also calls for police and government officials to submit themselves to drug testing.

Policemen who fail or doubt the results of drug tests, which the Philippine National Police's Crime laboratory recently conducted, may seek a "second opinion" with a private laboratory, according to Metro Manila's top police official.

But Deputy Director Reynaldo Velasco quickly added that the concerned lawmen must submit the same urine and blood samples that the PNP crime laboratory used for the tests.

Velasco, head of the National Capital Region Police Office, said that lawmen who fail to pass the mandatory drug test may always dispute the findings of the national police.

The official added that the PNP is even willing to send the samples to any drug testing center.

He also assured the police officers who would want to dispute the PNP findings that they would not be sanctioned or punished.

"It is the right of the accused to prove his innocence," Velasco told reporters.

He added that should subsequent tests yield negative results, the lawmen concerned could use these findings when they seek reinstatement to the force.

Eight officers had failed in the just-concluded drug test, but the police had not released their names pending confirmatory tests.

PNP deputy director for Administration Edgar Aglipay said that policemen who would test positive in the confirmatory tests would be dismissed from the service.

Key to success

In Northern Metro Manila, the police chiefs of Caloocan, Malabon, Navotas and Valenzuela (Camanava area) recently met to discuss the government's drug campaign.

The police officials all agreed that the key to success in the fight against illegal drugs is in the hands of concerned citizens.

"Every resident should immediately report suspicious activities in their neighborhood," the Camanava officials said in a joint statement during a recent press forum at the Northern Police District Office headquarters in Dagat-dagatan, Caloocan. "This way, we can create an efficient intelligence network to combat illegal drugs."

The police officials said that they are now working closely with barangay officials and other civic organizations to deal with drug traders in their areas.

The National Bureau of Investigation is set to conduct random drug tests among its officials, agents and staff workers, according to NBI Director Reynaldo Wycoco.

Wycoco said the drug test would be mandatory, similar to the PNP drug test.

"We also want to check ourselves," Wycoco told reporters.

NBI agents said they welcome the random drug tests.

A ranking bureau official however said that the NBI drug test must be held unannounced. "Urine samples are not very accurate," said the official who refused to be identified. "In three days time, a (drug) user can cleanse his or her urine (of drug traces)."

MMDA REPORT

Traffic mess on Katipunan getting worse

By Leila Salaverria

A WEEK after classes formally opened, heavy congestion continues to hamper vehicular flow on Quezon City's Katipunan Avenue, where planned traffic improvement projects have been shelved.

Angelito Vergel de Dios, Traffic Operations Center director of the Metro Manila Development Authority, yesterday said the status quo on Katipunan remained, meaning road congestion is still a regular occurrence.

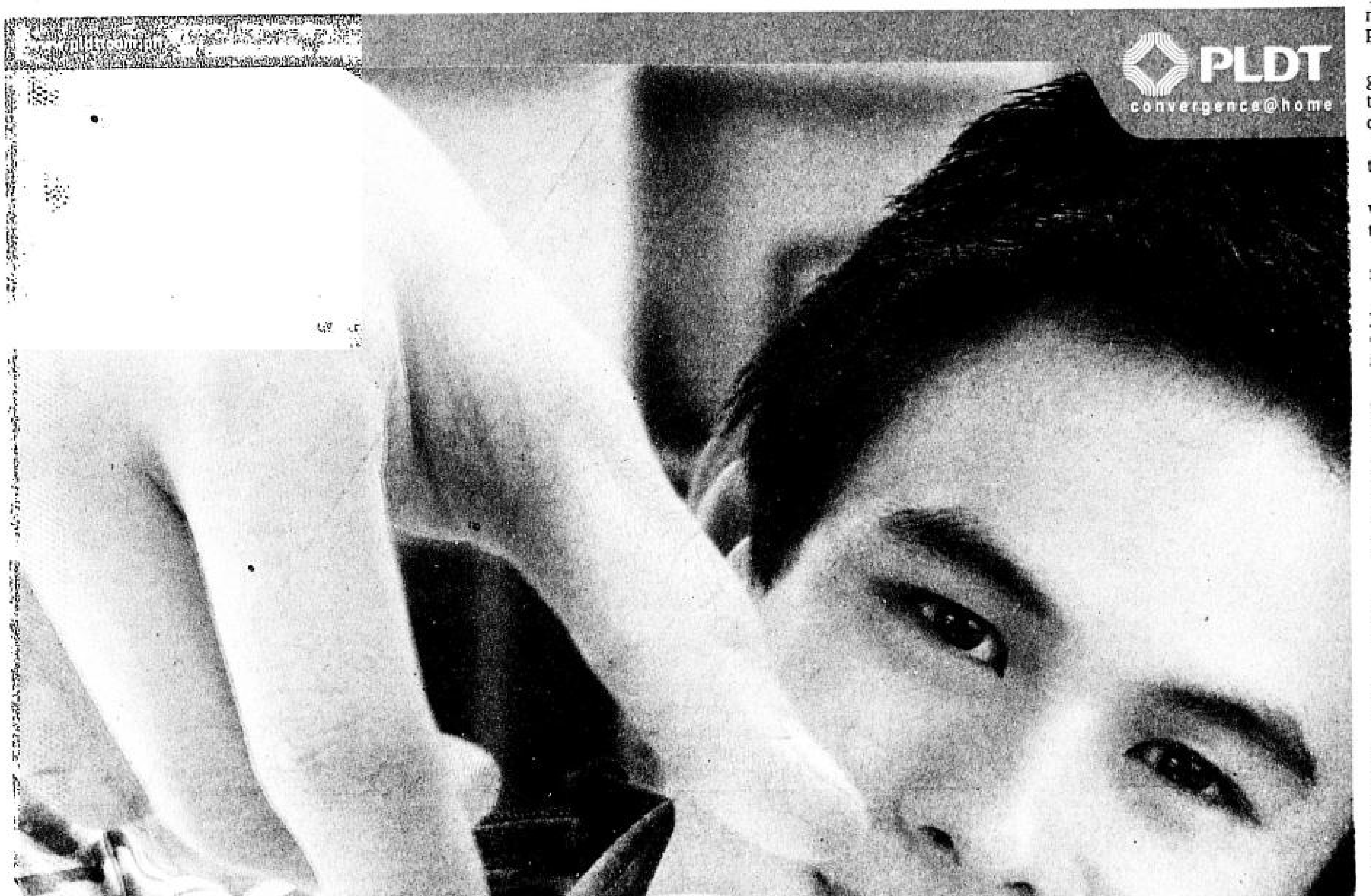
The MMDA was supposed to remove the service islands, and the trees along Katipunan to ease traffic congestion in time for the opening of classes.

But the project met with opposition from residents, environment groups and officials of schools along Katipunan. Malacañang imposed a moratorium on the plan so that further studies could be conducted.

According to Vergel de Dios, Katipunan is connected to C-5 Road and thus, there is a need to make Katipunan wider for vehicular flow to go faster.

Katipunan is not a place where people could stroll in," the traffic director said. "It's already part of a major highway."

But he added that officials of Ateneo de Manila, Miriam College and University of the Philippines—which are all located in the vicinity of Katipunan Avenue—are coming up with suggestions on how to improve traffic flow in the area.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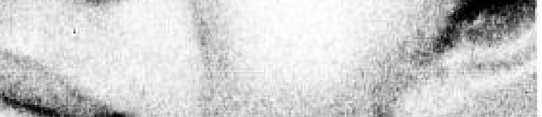

Suki mo sa long distance.

CUBAN BOXING GURU HERE

Olympic gold possible in 2004

By Dennis U. Eroa

UNITY, hard work, discipline, desire, confidence and, last but not the least, money.

These, according to legendary Cuban boxing guru Alcides Sagarra Caron, will enable the country to win its first Olympic gold medal.

"I've watched Filipino fighters fought bravely many times in international competitions. They fought well in Cuba, too, but winning an Olympic gold isn't easy especially now that boxing is getting to be complicated," said the 66-year-old Caron.

The legendary Cuban coach is here on a 10-day working visit that includes a seminar on technique and training.

Speaking through an interpreter, who happened to be four-time Olympian Enrique Beech, Caron, founder of the Cuban School of boxing which has produced 27 gold medalists since the 1960 Rome Olympics, said making an Olympic champion takes 10-12 years.

"We have 17-year olds who are already world champions. We start training 11-12 year-old kids because this is the way to make future champions," Caron said.

Caron was the main guest in yesterday's presentation of the RP-Revicon team which gained honors in Lithuania and Spain at the Kamayan Restaurant in

OLYMPIC/ A28

CARON: He makes Olympic champions. JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

WHAT'S INSIDE

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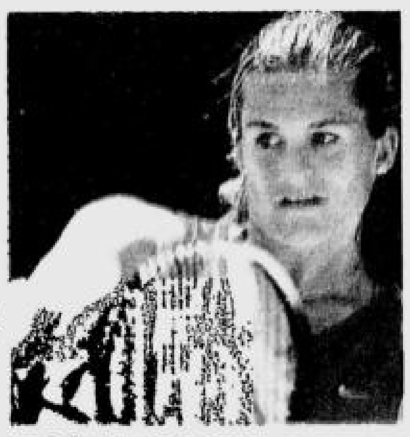
- Rosales sputters with 77; Teske up /A24

- Goosen closes in on Baird /A25

- Lewis fights Klitschko today /A28



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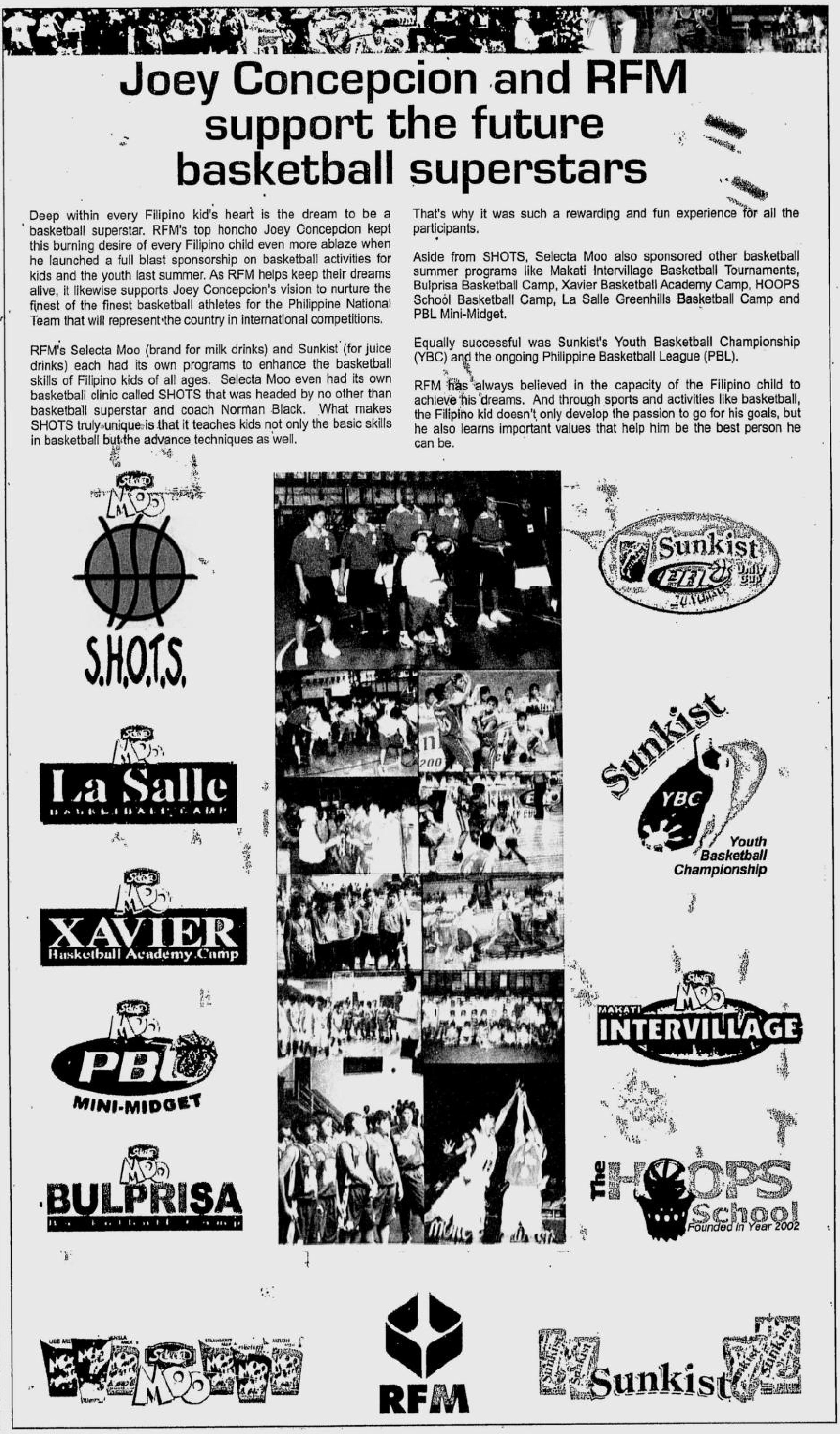


Joey Concepcion and RFM support the future basketball superstars

Deep within every Filipino kid's heart is the dream to be a basketball superstar. RFM's top honcho Joey Concepcion kept this burning desire of every Filipino child even more ablaze when he launched a full blast sponsorship on basketball activities for kids and the youth last summer. As RFM helps keep their dreams alive, it likewise supports Joey Concepcion's vision to nurture the finest of the finest basketball athletes for the Philippine National Team that will represent the country in international competitions.

RFM's Selecta Moo (brand for milk drinks) and Sunkist (for juice drinks) each had its own programs to enhance the basketball skills of Filipino kids of all ages. Selecta Moo even had its own basketball clinic called SHOTS that was headed by no other than basketball superstar and coach Norman Black. What makes SHOTS truly unique is that it teaches kids not only the basic skills in basketball but the advance techniques as well.

That's why it was such a rewarding and fun experience for all the participants.

Aside from SHOTS, Selecta Moo also sponsored other basketball summer programs like Makati Intervillage Basketball Tournaments, Bulprisa Basketball Camp, Xavier Basketball Academy Camp, HOOPS School Basketball Camp, La Salle Greenhills Basketball Camp and PBL Mini-Midget.

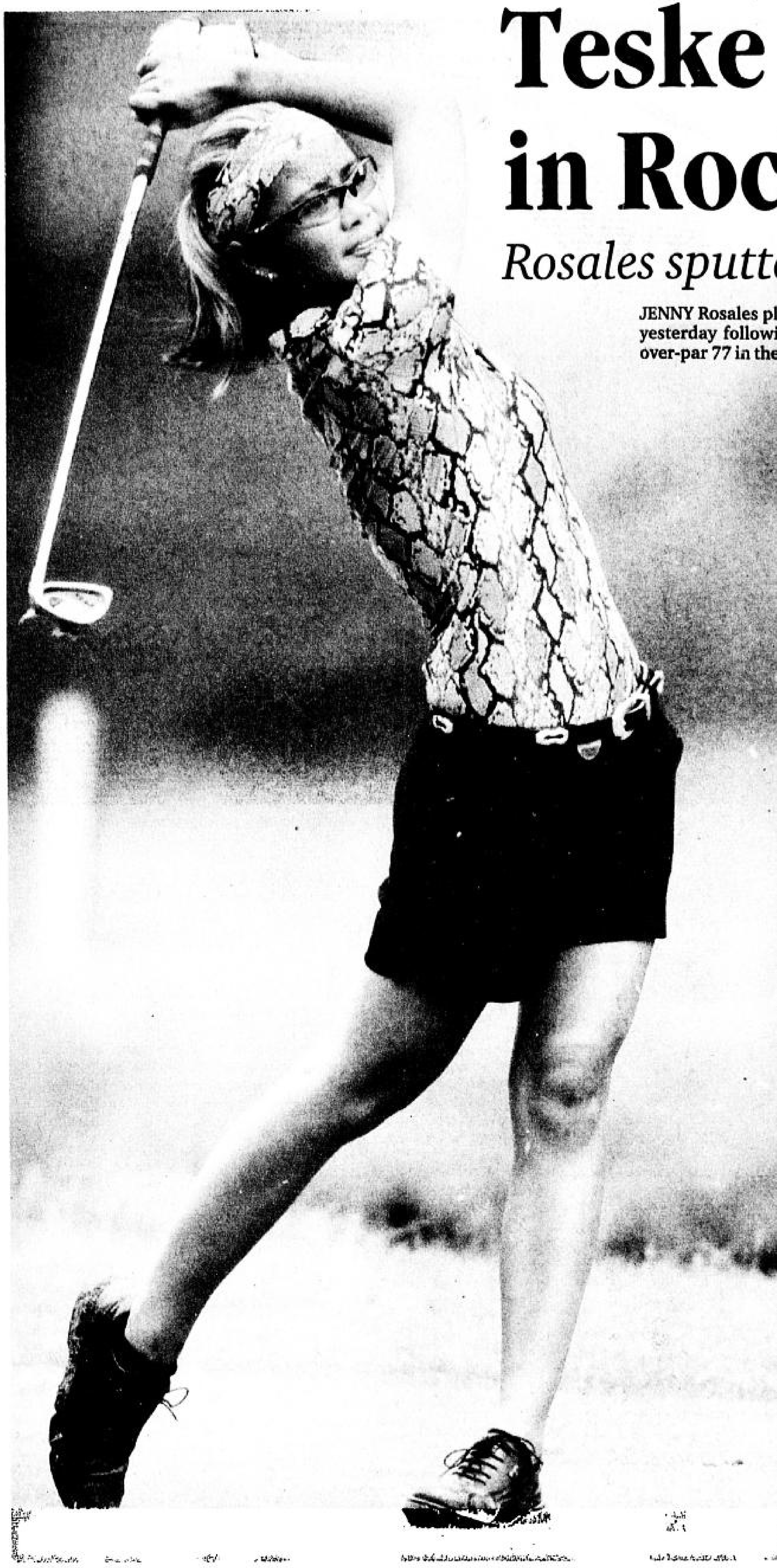
Equally successful was Sunkist's Youth Basketball Championship (YBC) and the ongoing Philippine Basketball League (PBL).

RFM has always believed in the capacity of the Filipino child to achieve his dreams. And through sports and activities like basketball, the Filipino kid doesn't only develop the passion to go for his goals, but he also learns important values that help him be the best person he can be.

S.H.O.T.S.
Sunkist PBL
La Salle Basketball Camp
Sunkist YBC Youth Basketball Championship
XAVIER Basketball Academy Camp
PBL MINI-MIDGET
MAKATI INTERVILLAGE
BULPRISA
The HOOPS School Founded in Year 2002
Moo
RFM
Sunkist

Teske takes control in Rochester LPGA

Rosales sputters with 77, drops to 42nd



ROSALES: Not at all bothered. AP

JENNY Rosales plunged from a tie for third to 42nd place yesterday following her worst score this season of five-over-par 77 in the Wegmans Rochester LPGA.

Rosales, who fired a 69 in the opening round, could only score a birdie against six bogeys at the tree-lined Locus Country Club in Rochester, New York on a rough day when everything just went askew for the Philippine star.

As a result, Rosales lost sight of the frontrunners with her 146 aggregate for 36 holes and dropped nine shots behind the player who spoiled her bid for a first-ever career victory last week, Rachel Teske.

Teske, who beat Rosales, Annika Sorenstam, Lorie Kane in a playoff last week for the Giant Eagle Classic, remained very solid with a 4-under 68 and took a two-stroke lead at the halfway mark of the $1.2 million championship.

At 137, Teske led A.J Eathorne of Canada whose 71-139 left her alone in second place. Tied for third at 140 were first-round leader Tina Barrett who followed her opening 67 with a 1-over 73, and South Korea's Mi Hyun Kim, last year's runner-up, who had a 71.

"It's been going good–I guess I've got a little bit of momentum and a little bit of confidence," said the 31-year-old Teske, a six-time winner who has earned $3.1 million since joining the LPGA Tour in 1997.

Rosales' swing coach Bong Lopez said his ward was hardly affected by the end of a mild streak.

"She's not at all bothered, she still sounded upbeat despite yesterday's round. The first thing she told me was to find the new cellphone model for her to use," said Lopez, who is flying to New Jersey next week to join Jenny in three events including the US Open on July 3-6 in Portland, Oregon.

Jenny's 77 matched her high score this season. She also had a 77 in the first round of The Office Depot event in April when she posted her worst showing so far of 57th place.

Rosales started with three bogeys on the first six holes and was already five over by the time she holed out on the 16th. The big reprieve came when she birdied the 17th but lost the stroke just the same with another bogey on the last hole.

Karrie Webb, the big name who was tied with Jenny at the start of the round, also blew up with a 76. She was in the group ahead of Jenny's at 145.

Fil-Am Dorothy Delasin, who is having a quiet season, scored a 73-146 and joined the logjam at 49th. *Jong Arcano*

Sherwood, MGC bets down rivals

NEWCOMER Sherwood Hills redeemed itself after a series of disappointments, bringing down heavily-favored Mt. Malarayat, 2.5-1.5, even as defending champion Manila Golf Club got back on the winning track at the resumption of the Federation Golf League matches in various venues over the weekend.

Boy Escano-Erwin Vinluan prevailed in bestball, Danny Samaniego-Indren Naidoo won in aggregate and Luis Oh-Juami Rocha salvaged the clinching draw in scramble for Sherwoods Hills' first point after three consecutive setbacks in Group III.

Manila Golf bounced back after an earlier loss to Eastridge, defeating a visiting Tagaytay Highlands squad, 3-1.

John Papa-OV Espiritu (aggregate), JP Reyes-Joey Yujuico (high-low) and Manoling Chan-Dodo Cu-unjieng (bestball) delivered the goods for Manila Golf while Boy Blue Ocampo-Goodie Hernandez averted a sweep by winning in scramble play.

The Forbes Park golfers earned their third win in four outings to stay in second place behind a streaking Eastridge in Group I.

In Angeles City, Southwoods and Mimosa fought to a highly-contested 2-2 draw.

Jeric Hechanova and Raul Magpantay, playing scramble, earned the crucial half point for Southwoods when they rallied to draw with CJ Tayag and Gus Ayson. *Jong Arcano*

SAMSUNG TOUR

Lady entry scores twin kill

CONSISTENTLY good from the course to the practice green, lady entry Violy Pegels went home with an appliance showcase of sorts after she fashioned a double-victory in the recent kick-off leg of the Samsung Amateur Golf Tour and Putting Challenge at Forest Hills.

Pegels, a member at Forest Hills, walked away with the ladies Class B division title of the Amateur Tour after impressive rounds of 91-81. Minutes after holing out, she headed to the practice green for the Putting Challenge where she again emerged as the ladies division champion.

Pegels got herself a Samsung 20-inch TV, a microwave oven for a day's work as she joined national amateur titlist Jerome Delariarte, the championship division winner, and six others in the winners' roster.

Zaldy Villa ruled Class A, the Class B trophy went to Reginald San Diego and the Class C crown was won by Leslie Borton.

Also emerging as winners in the Putting Challenge like Pegels were Ben Liclican (seniors) and Ivan Buenaventura and Jay Bayron (men's).

All winners earned slots to the national finals next year.

Samsung bossman Sang Youl Eom was on hand to award the prizes to the top finishers.

Co-sponsors of the event are Mario's, Wilson, Gatorade, Tokyo Tokyo, Microtel, Custom Clubmakers and Dunlop Golf. *Jong Arcano*

Campo tells chessers: Buckle down to work

By Marc Anthony Reyes

INSTEAD of acting as mediator between the National Chess Federation of the Philippines and two of the country's top female players, Fide chair emeritus and honorary president for life Florencio Campomanes scolded the two warring camps and told them to just buckle down to work.

Campomanes told the INQUIRER that he initiated a meeting to patch up the differences between NCFP officials led by president Mat Defensor and Woman Fide Master Joy Lomibao and Woman International Master Cristine Mariano two weeks ago.

The 76-year-old chess legend refused to reveal the details of the meeting, but he downplayed the rift and said he reminded the two camps to buckle down to work and produce results "which is the only important thing at the end of the day."

"Misunderstanding is a normal thing in any organization, whether national or international," Campomanes said. "I just told them to set aside their differences and deliver what's expected of them."

He added that if the NCFP produces good results in the Asian Zonals currently being held in Vietnam and in the December Southeast Asian Games, and the players train very hard to earn slots in the SEAG, "then Philippine chess will be a whole lot better."

Lomibao and Mariano, the RP No. 1 and 2, respectively, have questioned the NCFP's policies, including its disbursement of funds. They also accused the association of harassment by taking their names out of the Philippine Sports Commission payroll as members of the national pool.

PSC chair Eric Buhain had earlier said he would ask NCFP to justify its recent payroll report where the names of the two players were missing.

In the interest of protecting the national athletes, Buhain vowed to look into NCFP's requirement for its pool members after it claimed that Lomibao and Mariano only reported for practice for two days last month.

The players, on the other hand, maintained that the NCFP didn't have any training program for them and questioned the NCFP for giving a monthly stipend and meal allowance to Australia-based Arriane Caoili, who has been training abroad the last two years.

SPORTSWATCH

Intervillage elims

SEVEN teams dispute the three championship berths in the final round of eliminations of the south sector tournament of the Nokia Intervillage golf series tomorrow at the south course of the Canlubang golf complex in Laguna. BF Homes ruled the first round of the 36-hole event exclusively for villages in Parañaque, Muntinlupa and Las Piñas but it only posted a one-point victory over Alabang, 291-290, while the five other squads stood within striking distance. This is the most closely fought sectoral event in the four-group tournament sponsored for the second straight year by Nokia, the world leader in mobile communications. Tahanan is running third with 286, followed by Alabang (281), Marcelo Green (278), Philam Life-Las Piñas (265) and Merville (262).

Rey tops fishing tilt

REY Buencamino, Fish Finder Inc. president and PGFF managing director, won the recent Toots Echauz Sportsfishing Tournament supported by Lourdes T. Echauz Holdings Inc. at San Vicente, Cagayan and padded his overall lead in the 12-round Angler of the Year derby of the Philippine Game Fishing Foundation. Buencamino won with a 14-dorado bounty weighing 101.7 kg. Bobby Garcia/Conrad Cuesta placed second at 89 kg from nine fish that include two sailfish. The Standard Insurance Tuna sportfishing tournament, the 6th AOY leg rounding off the heavy tackle series, follows June 27-29 in Puerto Princesa, Palawan. For details, contact Camille James at PGFF tels. 373-0743/373-0248 or e-mail pgff1940@yahoo.com

TIP rules Challenge

TECHNOLOGICAL Institute of the Philippines-Cubao, displaying more heart and determination, beat Polytechnic University of the Philippines in a tiebreaker to win the Colgate Fresh Xtreme Challenge finals held in Ortigas recently. TIP and PUP garnered 190 points each at the end of the competition. TIP then outscored PUP in the deciding game of street hockey to clinch the crown. It was no easy feat for TIP, composed of team captain Matthew James Suarez, Keith Jacinto, Ryan Javier and Christopher Allan Arcenal, which won the P25,000 grand prize plus a trip to Boracay.

Martial arts meet up

SPORTS and Entertainment Management Inc. (SEM) brings the international "Fearless Mixed Martial Arts Championship" to Manila on July 5, 7 p.m., at the Philsports Arena. A major highlight will be the presence of some of the best local and international martial arts competitors, namely, elite Philippine martial artist Myles Vives, BJJ Revolution Team co-founder John Ouano, Caesar Gracie Team member Chris Sanford, Nova Uniao Black Belt Champion Renato "Charuto" Verissimo, and Ultimate Fighting Championship top contender and World Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu champion B.J. "The Prodigy" Penn. Tickets are available at all SM-Ticketnet outlets and at the Araneta Coliseum Box Office. For inquiries and reservations, call 911-5555 or visit www.ticketnet.com or call Sports and Entertainment Management Inc. at 932-6267.

Roligon tourney up

WINNING handlers and gaffers will be rewarded handsomely in the upcoming "Hattah–Hattah 5–Cock Derby" at the Roligon Mega Cockpit on June 28, July 1, 3 and 5. For a low entry fee of P8,800, the total guaranteed prize at stake is P2.2 million, according to host Rolly Ligon. During the championship round, the handler and gaffer prize is P150,000 and P75,000, respectively. A separate prize of P35,000 and P15,000, respectively, will go to the handler and gaffer of the fastest-kill champion. For more information, contact 833-2275 and 833-1638.

4-cock derby on tap

ACTION resumes at the Mandaluyong Coliseum this coming Tuesday, June 24, with the staging of the ``Ucap Sentenciador 4-Cock Derby''. Sponsors are Sagupaan Hammer, Sagupaan Mite Free, Sagupaan B-50 Forten and Lakpue Drugs Washout Shampoo. Providing assistance in this one-day derby is current Ucap president Raymond Velayo. Submission of entries is set tomorrow, June 23, from 2 to 9 p.m. For other details, please contact 531-4003, 531-4005, 534-4110 and 535-2341.

Stolen medal found

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado—Barbara Roles Williams hasn't seen her Olympic bronze medal for figure skating since it was stolen from her car 20 years ago. That's about to change. After months of detective work and help from two collectors, the medal is now at the Colorado Springs, Colorado, offices of the U.S. Figure Skating Association, which plans to return it to Williams, a spokesman said Friday. **AP**

BUICK CLASSIC

Goosen fires 66 closes in on Ba

HARRISON, New York—South African Retief Goosen closed the gap on overnight leader Briny Baird to one stroke with a five-under-par 66 in the second round of the $5 million Buick Classic on Friday.

Baird, who led by three shots after a career-low 63 in the opening round, carded a 69 for a 10-under total of 132, one ahead of Goosen and two clear of Skip Kendall (66). Joey Sindelar (69) was in fourth place on 135.

World number one Tiger Woods (69), Japan's Shigeki Maruyama (69), JL Lewis (68), Brad Faxon (67), Jonathan Kaye (66) and Tom Gillis (65) were all on 136, six under, at Westchester Country Club.

Baird, whose best performance in four years on the PGA Tour was a second-place finish at the 2001 John Deere Classic, had seven birdies on Friday but also recorded three bogeys and a double bogey.

The 31-year-old American is back on more familiar ground because he had never previously held the 18-hole lead.

"I didn't feel comfortable (on Thursday) so now I'm back in my comfort zone," Baird told reporters.

"Just knowing that there's two more rounds, you can do one of two things—either go out there and try to play really hard or start doing a rain dance."

Goosen, the 2001 US Open champion, was one-over for the first eight holes but then eagled the par-five ninth for the second straight round. He also added four birdies on the back nine.

"I played pretty nicely today," he said. "It's obviously quite difficult to get close to a lot of the flags.

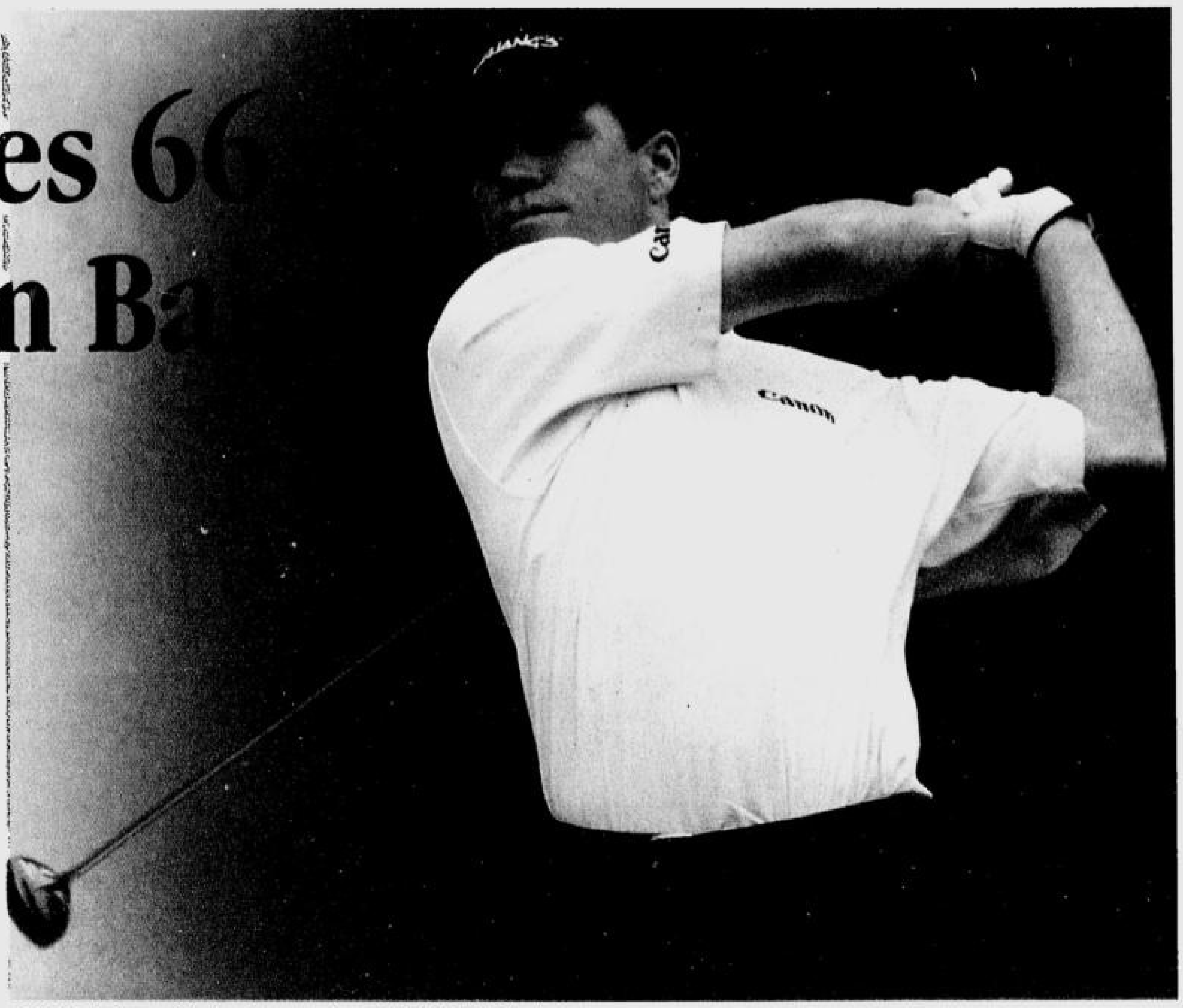
"I got off to a very slow start but the eagle on the ninth hole really sort of got my momentum going," added Goosen, whose last win came at the BellSouth Classic in April 2002.

Woods put together his first back-to-back rounds in the 60s since the Bay Hill Invitational in March, his last victory on the tour.

The world number one was 20th at last week's US Open, his worst finish of the season.

"I've been playing solid all year," he said. "It's just a matter of stringing some rounds together.

"I feel pretty good," Woods said. "I've played nine holes well each day. I just need to keep it going longer than that." *AFP*



BRINY Baird tees off during the second round of the Buick Classic.

GETTY IMAGES

Woods still trying to put it all together

HARRISON, New York—Tiger Woods needed two days and 36 holes to put together one solid round on the soggy Westchester Country Club course.

Failing again to build on a strong opening nine holes, the eight-time major champion shot a 2-under-par 69 Friday in the Buick Classic, leaving him four strokes behind second-round leader Briny Baird.

Woods, playing the back nine first in his morning round, birdied four of the first nine holes to reach 8 under, but dropped back with three bogeys and a birdie on the front nine. In the first round, he was 5 under after 10 holes, but settled for a 67.

"To have it going like that and to give it all away with poor putting, that's a little frustrating," Woods said. "I've played nine holes well each day. I just need to keep it going longer than that."

Winless since taking three of his first four events this year following knee surgery, Woods tied for 20th last week in the US Open, closing with rounds of 75 and 72 to finish 11 strokes behind winner Jim Furyk.

"I'm starting to get more into the rhythm," Woods said. "The things I've been working on are starting to come together. It's just a matter of getting up there and just trusting everything."

Baird followed a career-best 63 with an erratic 69 to top the field at 10 under, a stroke ahead of Retief Goosen (66). Skip Kendall (66) was two strokes back, while Joey Sindelar (69) followed at 7 under. Brad Faxon (67), J.L. Lewis (68) and Shigeki Maruyama (69) joined Woods at 6 under.

Defending champion Chris Smith missed the cut by a stroke. He rebounded from a first-round 78 with a 65 that included a front-nine 30. *AP*

2ND ROUND SCORES

132—Briny Baird 63 69
133—Retief Goosen 67 66
134—Skip Kendall 68 66
135—Joey Sindelar 66 69
136—Shigeki Maruyama 67 69, Tiger Woods 67 69, JL Lewis 68 68, Brad Faxon 69 67, Jonathan Kaye 70 66
137—John Rollins 70 67, Steve Flesch 69 68, Fred Couples 69 68, Shaun Micheel 69 68
138—Scott Verplank 70 68, Vijay Singh 70 68, Woody Austin 74 64, Peter Lonard 72 66, Jeff Brehaut 73 65, Steve Elkington 69 69, Kent Jones 71 67, Carl Pettersson 71 67
139—Alex Cejka 70 69, Ernie Els 68 71, Jim Furyk 66 73, John Riegger 71 68, Dudley Hart 70 69, Sergio Garcia 70 69, JP Hayes 73 66, Kenichi Kuboya 72 67
140—John E Morgan 72 68, Rod Pampling 70 70, Fredrik Jacobson 70 70
140—John E Morgan 72 68, Rod Pampling 70 70, Fredrik Jacobson 70 70
141—Jesper Parnevik 69 72, Per-Ulrik Johansson 71 70, Brenden Pappas 74 67, Richard Johnson 74 67, John Senden 73 68
142—Rory Sabbatini 71 71, Deane Pappas 68 74, Mathew Goggin 71 71, Luke Donald 71 71, Richard Zokol 73 69, Craig Perks 74 68, Paul Gow 73 69
144—Steven Alker 71 73, Scott Laycock 73 71, Tim Clark 70 74, Greg Chalmers 71 73. *Reuters*

Invitational set June 26

IT'S ALL systems go for the 10th edition of the Invitational, Manila Southwoods Golf and Country Club's annual member guest tournament, on Thursday, June 26, at the Masters and Legends courses in Carmona, Cavite.

Originally set last month, the invitational was postponed due to typhoon Chedeng. Freddie Mendoza, chair of Southwoods' sports and games committee, said a record field of 500 players, representing 250 two-man teams composed of Southwoods members and their guests, are vying for top honors and prizes in the four-day tournament.

College assurance plan, Diamond Motors, Mitsubishi Motors Philippines and Smart Communications Inc. are the major sponsors.

Compañero Cayetano

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

THE FIRST time I heard about it, I closed my eyes. Then I prayed. I prayed, as I still pray now and forever, that he survives the ordeal of going through a liver transplant.

God answered my prayers and my friend is home now after having hurdled the most difficult period of his life. Indeed, as the message of *Bruce Almighty* tells us all, God doesn't sleep even a wink.

Rene Cayetano, for years my compañero even before he became the dignified senator of the republic that he is today, is family to me. We have this healthy habit of exchanging notes about life, sports, everything under the sun. Almost on a regular basis.

Over the phone.

During lunch.

In a round of golf.

At the gym.

Oh, how he marvels at his visits to the gym, which he loves to call "my second home." There is no one as avid a health buff as Compañero Cayetano. That is why when I learned the first time that he was ill, my first reaction was: "Are you kidding? He is just about the healthiest person that I know of this side of the globe."

But it was true.

A little over 9 months or so ago, our Compañero Cayetano fell ill.

I can imagine how sad he must have been the minute he received the news. I'm almost sure he took the blow bitterly, as almost all health freaks would. And nobody can fault our compañero for that. Before the illness struck, he was rock-solid, his body a mass of muscles and lean meat. Emerging from it, he was as emaciated as a starving dog chained to a tree, his Mr. Body Beautiful reduced to virtual skin and bones.

He was taken to the United States for treatment. He would soon have his youngest son as the liver donor. Another son of his, Ren-Ren, is like a son to me. Ren-Ren was a jungolfer who is now councilor in Muntinglupa.

I almost wept when I saw Rene's picture splashed on page one of the INQUIRER just days back. He was shown standing alongside Franklin Drilon, the Senate president our compañero would have succeeded last December had he not fallen ill.

Why, of all people, did it have to be him?

The man has done so much for the common *tao* with his best selling Compañero program, a daily radio show aired nationwide that gives legal advice on any case imaginable on earth. Land grabbing, wife beating, legal separation, inheritance hassles, name it, our Compañero has a solution for everything.

And then this, an ailment that virtually stops you from doing even the most normal of things, except breathing.

Emotional we become at times when we are told of a news so gory it tends to force us to lose our grasp of life's mysteries. Sometimes, in the hurt that follows, we even question God's motives—or non-motives. Usually, that happens when a dear one is the victim. Such as Rene Cayetano, who was in the pink of health before he terribly, horribly, fell ill.

The illness stole Compañero Cayetano away from us. From me.

Do you know that my association with Compañero Cayetano goes a long way?

More than a dozen years ago, I was at the international airport waiting for my plane bound for the United States, where I was to cover the World Junior Golf championship.

A dude looking very dapper, well groomed, came to me and said, "I bet you are Al Mendoza."

"No, sir," I said. "I am Manny Mendoza, the brother of Al Mendoza."

"I can't be wrong," he said. "I rarely go wrong. You are Al Mendoza. I read your column all the time."

I said, "You are mistaken, sir. I am Manny Mendoza, the older brother of Al Mendoza."

Realizing I was bent on standing my ground, he pulled out a pen and a notebook, "OK, then, Manny, let me have the autograph of Al Mendoza's brother."

I obliged. I signed, "Manny Mendoza."

"Thank you, Mr. Mendoza," he said and walked away.

In the PAL jet an hour later, I saw again the dude still so dapper in his well-pressed suit. I was now seated beside Jake Ayson, the executive director of the National Golf Association of the Philippines. I was fastening my seat belt when in came the dashing gentleman.

"So, Jake, you are with him, huh?" he said, pointing at me.

"Yes, sir, I am," said Jake. "Sir, meet Mr. Al Mendoza."

"I met him already," he said. "See Al? I told you I rarely go wrong."

When he left, he was wearing the smile of a winner.

"So you've met Mr. Rene Cayetano," said Jake. "He is the new president of the Junior Golf Association of the Philippines."

In the World Junior Golf, Rene and I became almost inseparable. We ate together, drank wine together, joked a lot about things in life. We played golf and he graciously parted with the dollars he lost on friendly bets. We even saw the film *Dead Poets Society* together and, emerging from the theater, Rene said he cried when the climax was near.

"Thank you for inviting me to watch the movie," he said. "It's the finest movie I've seen in years."

Back home after the tournament, we kept in touch. Rene has made me his partner in many Mango Tee tournaments at Alabang. Just days after I had coffee with him in his Makati office, the news of his suddenly falling ill broke out. It felt like I was hit by a Klitschko punch smack in the eye.

It orphaned me. It still has. I pray to dear God this is only temporary.

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Late Model
Isuzu Elf Manlift (Giga Type)
30 KVA Gen Set
AND MANY MORE

ALL FILIPINO CUP

Talk N Text, Coca-Cola seek 2-0 lead over foes

By Marc Anthony Reyes

Semis at a glance
(Game 1)
TnT 115, Alaska 109 (OT)
Coca-Cola 85, SLR 70
GAMES TODAY *(Araneta Coliseum)*
4 p.m.—SLR vs Coca-Cola
6:30 p.m. —TnT vs Alaska

TALK N Text and Coca-Cola try to move a win away from reaching the finals of the PBA Samsung All Filipino Cup when they shoot for second straight victories against their respective rivals today at the Araneta Coliseum.

If Kenneth Duremdes fails to suit up for Sta. Lucia Realty, the Coca-Cola Tigers go into their 4 p.m. match with the Realtors overwhelming favorites to take a 2-0 lead in their side of the best-of-five semifinal series.

But for the Phone Pals to repeat over the Alaska Aces in their 6:30 p.m. encounter, they have to again enjoy the breaks which allowed them to pull off a miraculous 115-109 overtime victory in their first meeting Friday.

Alaska seemed to have Friday's game all wrapped up with a six-point lead with less than 20 seconds left. But the Aces missed two of four free throws while the Phone Pals fired two triples in a closing 8-2 run that sent the game into overtime and paved the way for the unlikely Talk N Text win.

Duremdes, who strained his left calf muscle in Sta. Lucia's second game in the quarterfinals on June 11, just might show up today for the Realtors, who got clobbered by the Tigers in Game 1,85-70.

Just the same, Tigers coach Chot Reyes said their game plan has been devised with Duremdes in mind so they won't be caught flatfooted if and when the Realtors' top scorer, rebounder and passer returns.

"Our preparation for Sta. Lucia has always involved Kenneth. So whether he plays Sunday or Wednesday or whenever, we will be ready for them," said Reyes after Friday's game.

Despite the absence of Duremdes, who averaged 41 points in two games in the quarterfinals,the Tigers only managed to pull away in the fourth quarter.

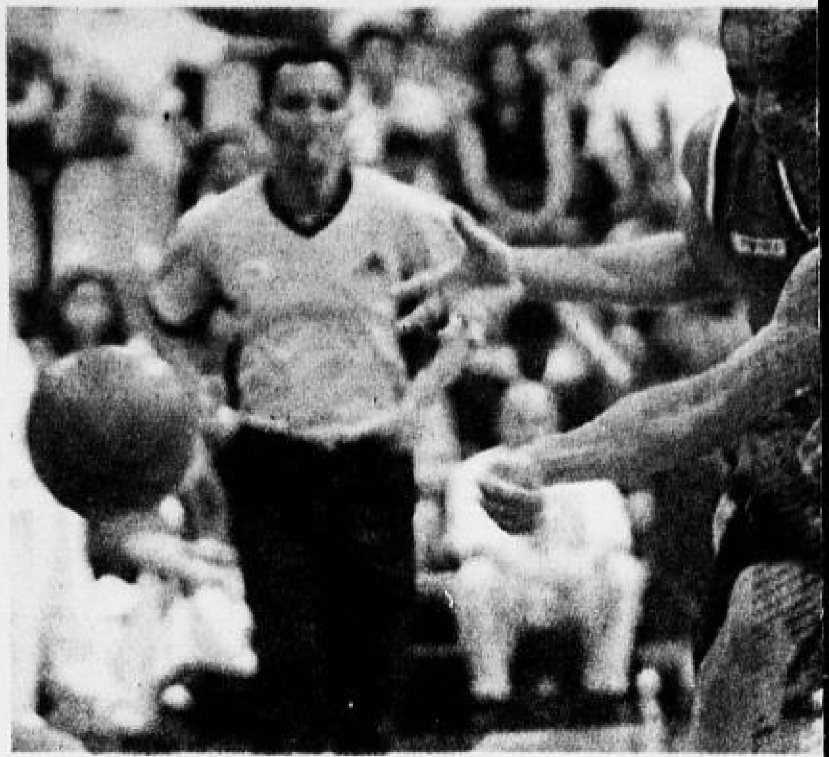
"We can't take Sta. Lucia for granted, like tonight (Francis) Adriano played like a Kenneth," said Reyes after Game 1.

Sta. Lucia also drew a big game from point guard Paolo Mendoza, who kept the Realtors' big men happy aside from outplaying Coke's Johnny Abarrientos, who is seeing action despite a hurting knee and heel.

The Aces are expected to concentrate on defending not only Asi Taulava and Jimmy Alapag but Patrick Fran and Mark Telan as well as the two delivered the key baskets that doomed Alaska.

"We are just blessed," said TnT coach Joel Banal after the win. "For a moment there it appeared that we have already lost the game but the boys just didn't give up.

"But I'm sure things will be a lot different on Sunday because, knowing Alaska, they will come out even stronger in Game 2," added Banal.



PATRICK Fran (right) of Talk N Text and Brandon Cablay of Alaska chase th
N Text won, 115-109, in overtime.

JOHN Arigo (right) drives past a Talk N Text defender. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Cash, Nolan lift Shock to victory

AUBURN HILLS, Michigan—Swin Cash scored 15 points, all in the final nine minutes, and Deanna Nolan matched a career-high with 18 points as the Detroit Shock defeated the New York Liberty 88-83.

Detroit trailed by as many as 12 points in the second half, but rallied to win its fifth straight game Friday. The Shock have the WNBA's best record at 5-1.

With the score tied at 81, Nolan fouled Becky Hammon. She made both free throws, but Ruth Riley answered with a short jumper to tie it at 83.

After Hammon turned the ball over, Cash was fouled by Tamika Whitmore with 21 seconds left. She hit both shots, giving Detroit an 85-83 edge.

Another turnover by Hammon forced New York (4-4) to foul, and Elaine Powell hit one of two from the line to make it a three-point game. Crystal Robinson missed a tying 3-pointer and Riley sealed the game from the line.

Riley added a career-high 18 points for Detroit, while Robinson had a season-best 22 and Whitmore added 20 for the Liberty. Robinson had 17 of her points in the first half, when New York took a 44-34 lead into the break. *AP*

ninja master

ball in Game 1 of their PBA All-Filipino Cup semifinal series Friday night. Talk

AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Iverson is all praises for Brown

PHILADELPHIA—Allen Iverson didn't always get along with Larry Brown, but he's looking forward to seeing his former coach later this summer.

"I can't wait to see Coach Brown with the Olympic thing so he can see my body, see how much I've been lifting," Iverson said Friday in his first public comments since Brown resigned as coach of the Philadelphia 76ers last month. "I want to see his face when I take my shirt off because I've been lifting more than I ever did in my career."

Brown, now coach of the Detroit Pistons, always stressed to Iverson that he wanted him to lift weights in the offseason to be able to better endure the rigors of the season.

Brown and Iverson had a contentious relationship during their six years together in Philadelphia, and some believe that's one of the primary reasons Brown stepped down after the season.

But after a news conference in which Randy Ayers was promoted from assistant to head coach of the 76ers, Iverson downplayed his feuds with Brown, calling him "the best coach in the world."

Brown will coach the 2004 U.S. Olympic men's basketball team, which includes Iverson. The two will see each other again in August when the team plays in a qualifying tournament in Puerto Rico, attempting to gain one of three berths available to the FIBA-Americas region for the Olympics in Athens.

"It's not going to be any bitterness with me and I don't think there's going to be any with him, so I can't wait for that part of the Olympics just to become better friends with him," Iverson said.

Brown's biggest problem with Iverson concerned his practice habits. Iverson often arrived late for practices — he also was late for Ayers' news conference — and missed several practices for various excuses.

Brown also harped on Iverson for taking too many shots and playing selfishly at times. But, he praised Iverson repeatedly last season for "playing the right way" and said it was the star guard's best all-around season.

"I just learned a lot from Coach Brown as a basketball player and helping me as a person off the court," Iverson said. "He has done so much for me. Everybody makes a big deal about our ongoing feuds as you all would call it. That didn't come from me. It came from him talking about it."

Iverson said he was surprised Brown stepped down and took a job with the Pistons, but warned that the 76ers are a better team. *AP*

Ayers new 76ers coach

PHILADELPHIA—Randy Ayers was promoted from assistant to head coach of the Philadelphia 76ers on Friday after being far down on the list of choices to replace Larry Brown.

Ayers spent the last six seasons as Brown's assistant. Brown resigned last month and is now the Detroit Pistons' coach.

"At the end of the day, it became clear that Randy is the guy," team president Billy King said. "I believe in this team. We have the same vision. With some tweaking, I believe we can go far." *AP*

Legend of Ninja
Street Brawl
Phone Shot
Nanostrike
Evil Hunter
Phantom Eagle
Lupin X
Super Marbles
Just Impact
Space Warrior 2
Aston Golf
Battle Changer
Action Basketball
Red Herring
Overdrive
Miner
Play Catch
Demons Treasure

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SPORTS noodle

VOL. I NO 021

Bong Barrameda

In the news

A serving of 7 questions, from easiest to toughest, each with a corresponding point value. Can you score a perfect 100 (or, at least, beat the other 'sports genius/geniuses' beside you)?

1 > 3 Pts.
o True / o False: In dominating Game 6 and leading the San Antonio Spurs to the NBA title, Tim Duncan recorded the first ever quadruple double in league playoff history with 21 points, 20 rebounds, 10 assists and 10 blocks.

2 > 5 Pts.
Which team won ice hockey's Stanley Cup by beating the Anaheim Mighty Ducks, 3-0, in the seventh and final game of their championship series?
o New Jersey Devils
o New York Rangers

3 > 7 Pts.
Two of the country's top female chess players are fighting back after being threatened by the National Chess Federation of the Philippines - with a one-year ban and exclusion from the Hanoi Southeast Asian Games in December. One of them is Sherrie Joy Lomibao. Who's the other?
o Arianne Agcaoili
o Beverly Mendoza
o Cristine Rose Mariano

4 > 10 Pts.
In carding a record-equaling 272 total at the US Open in Olympia Fields, Illinois, hotshot Jim Furyk captured his first major title by how many strokes?
o 3
o 5
o 7

5 > 20 Pts.
In what southern city did boxing champion Manny Pacquiao recently display his power of drunken destructiveness at a bar?
o Cagayan de Oro
o Davao
o General Santos
o Zamboanga

6 > 25 Pts.
New York Yankee star pitcher Roger Clemens has finally attained 300 wins and 4,000 strikeouts both in the same game. Against which team?
o Boston Red Sox
o Atlanta Braves
o Texas Rangers
o St. Louis Cardinals

7 > 30 Pts.
Dubbed the 'new Anna Kournikova,' this 16-year-old Russian looker was chastised by the umpire for her on-court screams in her second-round victory at the Birmingham (England) leg of the WTA Tour. Who is she?

ANSWERS/ A29

SPORTS TV

Compiled by Lorenzo Manguiat

BOXING: Lewis vs Klitschko: 10 a.m.; RPN 9 - WBC heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis defends his title against top contender Vitali Klitschko of Ukraine.

GOLF: US Open: 12:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. (r); ESPN - Rewind to the final round of this recently concluded major tournament.

Buick Classic: 4 p.m. (r), 10 p.m. (r) and tomorrow at 3 a.m.; Star Sports - Catch the final 36 holes of this all - important event.

PGA Europro Highlights 2003: 7 p.m. (r); Star Sports - The most memorable moments from Portugal are captured in this program.

TENNIS: 2003 Wimbledon Preview: 8:30 p.m.; Star Sports - Get a head start prior to the first serve.

Stella Artois Championships 2003: 12:30 p.m. (r); Star Sports - Take another look at the finals of this women's event.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Ukraine giant tests Lewis' rusting skills

Los Angeles hosts first 'heavy' title fight in 45 years

LOS ANGELES—A lot has changed in the heavyweight world since Lennox Lewis put a whipping on Mike Tyson a year ago in Memphis.

There are two intriguing new belt holders, one big deflated contender and no sign of Tyson.

One thing that hasn't changed: Despite his layoff and his tendency to give his titles away, Lewis is the true heavyweight champion until somebody beats him in the ring.

"I am the last great heavyweight," Lewis said.

That boast gets put to the test Saturday night when a giant from Ukraine tests both the rusting skills of Lewis and his suspect chin in the first heavyweight title fight in Los Angeles in 45 years.

Vitali Klitschko wasn't even supposed to be the best of two fighting brothers. But the awkward 6-foot-7 (2.01-meter) contender got two weeks notice and the biggest chance of his boxing life and couldn't pass it up.

"I am not a god and nobody is perfect," Klitschko said. "But I am really confident to go in the ring. I've been waiting a long time to fight Lewis."

Lewis, who will be punching up to reach his opponent for one of the few times in his career, is a 4-1 favorite to defend his WBC heavyweight title against the No. 1 contender in a scheduled 12-round fight at Staples Center.

It's a lot different than last June, when a bigger, faster Lewis battered Tyson around the ring before finally stopping him in the eighth round of the richest heavyweight fight of all time.

Since then, Lewis (40-2-1, 31 knockouts) has been relaxing and enjoying himself as the heavyweight division changed about him. Roy Jones Jr. won a title and so did Chris Byrd, while Klitschko's brother, Wladimir, was exposed in a shocking knockout loss to Corrie Sanders.

Still, the heavyweight championship belongs to Lewis until he loses or decides to give it up. He was once the undisputed champion, but gave up the IBF belt rather than fight Byrd, and the WBA belt so he wouldn't have to fight John Ruiz.

Klitschko, for one, believes, the 37-year-old Lewis would have been better served to retire on top after his impressive performance against Tyson.

"He decided to fight again. In my opinion, it is a mistake," Klitschko said.

Lewis was planning to fight Kirk Johnson in a bout that generated nothing but yawns. Johnson was injured in training, though, and he reached out to Klitschko, who was training to be on Saturday night's card anyway.

To keep his WBC title, Lewis had to fight Klitschko (32-1, 31 knockouts) by the end of the year. By fighting him now, he leaves open the possibility of a big money fight later this year against Jones.

"Jones would be a natural finish for my career if he dares to test it," Lewis said. "There would be so much money involved in fighting me, but people go funny over money."

Lewis will make a lot of it Saturday night, getting a reported payday of some $10 million for the title defense. He claims to be reinvigorated and ready to fight again, but he weighed in Thursday at 256.5 pounds (115.4 kilograms), 7 pounds (3 kilograms) heavier than when he fought Tyson and the heaviest weight of his career. *AP*

SOLAR Sports will telecast the Lennox Lewis-Vitali Klitschko world heavyweight championship fight today (Sunday, June 22) at 10 a.m. on both RPN-9 and on Channel 29 (Skycable/Homecable). The replay will be tomorrow at 7 p.m. on IBC-13.

SPORTS
KLITSCH
WBC/IBO Heavyw
Championshi
June 21, 20
LENNOX LEWIS
lennoxlewis
.com
LION

LEWIS: Last great heavyweight.

AFP

Champions
une 21

KLITSCHKO: I am not a god and nobody is perfect.

AFP

RP pugs head world tilt elims

THE BUILDUP to the 2003 World Amateur Boxing Championships heats up for the members of the Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines national training pool this weekend when eliminations for the Revicon-RP Team is held alongside the Go-for-Gold slugfest.

Eight bouts to be used as gauge for the team's composition and another four special bouts including a women's duel will comprise the card which will be hosted by Tagaytay City Mayor Francis Tolentino and sponsored by Water Front Hotels, Family Rubbing Alcohol, Pacific Heights, Accel and Revicon

Pinweights Bill Verica and Juanito Magliquian will start the card after which light flyweights Harry Tañamor and Lhyven Salazar fight each other.

Other bouts will have Godfrey Castro meeting Violito Payla in the flyweight class, Ferdie Gamo fighting Arlan Lerio in the Bantamweight division, featherweights Genebert Basadre and Junard Ladon fighting each other, Anthony Igusquiza clashing with Roel Laguna in the lightweight match, Florentino Ferrer facing Francis Joven in the light-welterweight clash and Maraon Goles fighting Maximino Tabangcora in the middleweight class.

In the special bouts, Analiza Cruz meets Annie Albania in the lone women's match while Ruben Traza tangles with Ronnie Astaño in the 48 kg class, Pril Tupaz goes up against Johare Russia at 51 kg and Joan Tipou fights Rene Villaluz at 54 kg.

Olympic gold possible . . .

From page A23

Pasay Road.

"Caron is the pride and glory of Cuban boxing. He's even idolized by Fidel Castro. We hope to fast-track the country's bid for an Olympic gold with his presence, " said Abap President Manny Lopez, who added that Caron's visit was made possible by the International Olympic Committee solidarity courses.

Caron said it's possible that the country will win its first Olympic gold in the 2004 Athens, Olympics or in the 2008 Beijing Games, but the bottom line is to keep on with the hard work.

"A boxer must know that his career's not finished by losing a bout. He must not lose confidence," Caron said.

Among the champions he produced were four-time Olympic winner Felix Savon, , Roberto Balado, Julius Gonzales, Maikro Romero and Joel Casamayor.

"Money," according to Caron, will also spell a lot of difference in the country's Olympic gold-medal bid.

"Your boxers need international exposure, proper training and support. The search for an Olympic gold should be a collective effort," Caron said.

White Sox prove too much for Cubs

CHICAGO—Miguel Olivo hit a grand slam homer to highlight a six-run first inning which led the Chicago White Sox to an emphatic 12-3 victory over the Chicago Cubs in Interleague play Friday.

The White Sox took advantage of 10 walks issued by Cubs pitchers to score the most lopsided win in the series between the crosstown rivals which started in 1997.

Aaron Rowand had three hits and drove in three runs for the White Sox while Carlos Lee had two hits and drove in two runs.

Jon Garland (5-6) picked up the victory, going six innings.

He allowed two runs on eight hits with four strikeouts and three walks.

Shawn Estes (6-6) was clobbered for six runs on two hits in the only inning he pitched–he also walked four–to take the loss. Alex Gonzalez collected a solo homer for the Cubs.

Yankees 5, Mets 0

In New York, Andy Pettitte tossed seven shutout innings as the Yankees beat the Mets 5-0 in the opener of a three-game series between the crosstown rivals.

Pettitte (7-6) allowed five hits with eight strikeouts and two walks. Alfonso Soriano, Derek Jeter and Jason Giambi homered for the Yankees.

Steve Trachsel (5-5) gave up two runs on five hits over seven innings with five strikeouts and five walks to take the loss.

Blue Jays 8, Expos 4

In Montreal, Cory Lidle pitched a three-hitter over seven innings to join teammate Roy Halladay on the 10-win mark for the season and help the Toronto Blue Jays overcome the Expos 8-4.

Vernon Wells, Frank Catalanotto, Orlando Hudson and Greg Myers homered for the Jays, winners of four straight games. *AP*

Former MVP Canseco nabbed

DAVIE, Florida—Former Major League Baseball star Jose Canseco was arrested at his home here Friday after testing positive for steroids earlier this month.

The 1988 American League Most Valuable Player already was on probation stemming from his role in a nightclub brawl in 2001.

Canseco, 38, violated that parole by leaving the state and failing to attend anger management classes. He was sentenced to two years of house arrest, followed by three years of probation.

But the steroid violation could result in Canseco going to prison for up to 15 years.

Since retiring last year, Canseco has threatened to expose what he calls "widespread" steroid usage by major league players in a book, although there is no release date set for the "naming names" tell-all story that might have to be written in prison. *AP*

Colombia booters end drought

SAINT-ETIENNE, France—France has won with team A and team B at the Confederations Cup to qualify for the semifinals, but without restoring confidence.

For the second match in a row, the French got a lift from a controversial penalty to edge Japan 2-1 Friday for a place in next week's semifinals, yet its experimental lineup with just one holdover from the opener was constantly under pressure from a composed Japanese team.

Also, Colombia scored its first goals in more than a year to beat New Zealand in a come-from-behind effort which eliminated the Kiwis from the tournament and brought the South American champion back in the race for a semifinal place.

Colombia plays Japan on Sunday to fill the remaining slot from Group A.

With the tournament still buzzing about Brazil's stunning 1-0 loss to Cameroon, Japan and New Zealand looked set to produce more shocks.

France was saved by the bar, and New Zealand, ranked just 51st in the world, led Colombia for an hour before some order was restored.

Colombia needed a deflection on a Jorge Lopez shot to end more than a year of goalscoring futility, and only the athleticism of excellent Kiwi goalkeeper Mike Utting prevented a rout.

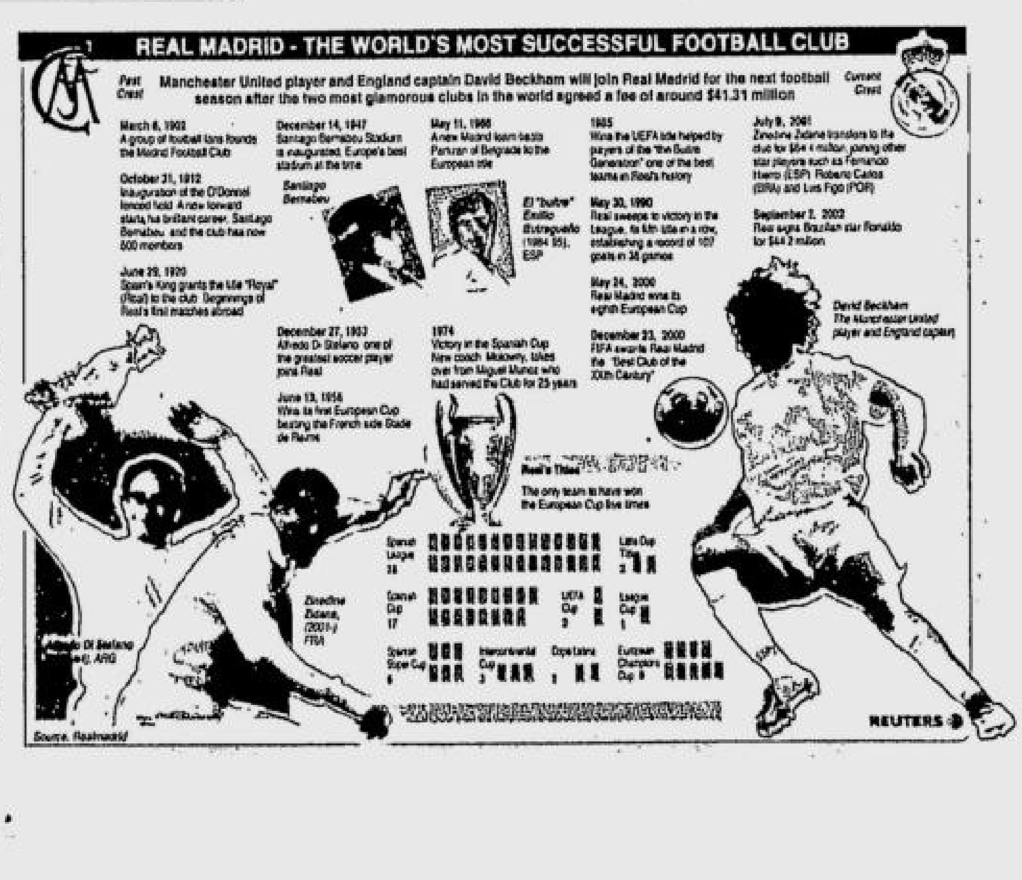
Fabien Barthez's performance was more suspect.

After sitting out the first game, the French No. 1 goalie let himself be surprised by a 28-meter (yard) freekick from Shunsuke Nakamura, who scored his third goal in just two games.

It brought Japan back in the game. Robert Pires had converted a penalty after Junichi Inamoto briefly got his hands around Jean-Alain Boumsong in a goalmouth scramble.

In the 65th minute, Sidney Govou took a deep pass from Manchester United defender Mikael Silvestre just a few meters (yards) out, turned and fired past 'keeper Seigo Narazaki to give France a second win.

It set the capacity crowd of 36,000 alight and further added to the heat which enveloped southern France on Friday. *AP*


REAL MADRID - THE WORLD'S MOST SUCCESSFUL FOOTBALL CLUB
Manchester United player and England captain David Beckham will join Real Madrid for the next football season after the two most glamorous clubs in the world agreed a fee of around $41.31 million
Past Crest
Current Crest
March 6, 1902
A group of football fans founds the Madrid Football Club
October 31, 1912
Inauguration of the O'Donnel fenced field. A new forward starts his brilliant career, Santiago Bernabeu, and the club has now 500 members
June 29, 1920
Spain's King grants the title "Royal" (Real) to the club. Beginnings of Real's first matches abroad
December 14, 1947
Santiago Bernabeu Stadium is inaugurated. Europe's best stadium at the time
Santiago Bernabeu
May 11, 1966
A new Madrid team beats Partizan of Belgrade to the European title
El "buitre" Emilio Butragueño (1984 95), ESP
December 27, 1953
Alfredo Di Stefano one of the greatest soccer player joins Real
June 13, 1956
Wins its first European Cup beating the French side Stade de Reims
1974
Victory in the Spanish Cup. New coach Miljanic takes over from Miguel Munoz who had served the Club for 23 years
1985
Wins the UEFA title helped by players of the "the Buitre Generation" one of the best teams in Real's history
May 30, 1990
Real sweeps to victory in the League, its fifth title in a row, establishing a record of 107 goals in 38 games
May 24, 2000
Real Madrid wins its eighth European Cup
December 23, 2000
FIFA awards Real Madrid the "Best Club of the 20th Century"
July 9, 2001
Zinedine Zidane transfers to the club for $64.4 million, joining other star players such as Fernando Hierro (ESP), Roberto Carlos (BRA) and Luis Figo (POR)
September 1, 2002
Real signs Brazilian star Ronaldo for $44.2 million
David Beckham
The Manchester United player and England captain
Real's Titles
The only team to have won the European Cup five times
Spanish League 28
Latin Cup Title 2
Spanish Cup 17
UEFA Cup 2
League Cup 1
Spanish Super Cup 6
Intercontinental Cup 3
Copa Latina 2
European Champions Cup 9
Zinedine Zidane, (2001-) FRA
Alfredo Di Stefano ARG
Source: Realmadrid
REUTERS

Updated draw list

SOME of the updated draw with qualifiers for Wimbledon Championships starting Monday (seeds in parentheses; wc-wild card; q-qualifier; ll-lucky loser):

MEN

Lleyton Hewitt (1), Australia, vs. q-Ivo Karlovic, Croatia; q-Ivo Heuberger, Switzerland, vs. q-Paul Baccanello, Australia; Taylor Dent, United States, vs. Ivan Ljubicic, Croatia; Max Mirnyi, Belarus, vs. Vince Spadea (31); United States, Fernando Gonzalez (19), Chile, vs. Jurgen Melzer, Austria; q-Petr Luxa, Czech Republic, vs. Jonas Bjorkman, Sweden; Irakli Labadze, Georgia, vs. Justin Gimelstob, United States; Robby Ginepri, United States, vs. Arnaud Clement (15), France; Paradorn Srichaphan (12), Thailand, vs. Dominik Hrbaty, Slovakia; Olivier Mutis, France, vs. Franco Squillari, Argentina; Rafael Nadal-Parera, Spain, vs. Mario Ancic, Croatia

wc-Lee Childs, Britain, vs. Nikolay Davydenko (33), Russia; Tommy Robredo (25), Spain, vs. Jose Acasuso, Argentina; Brian Vahaly, United States, vs. Filippo Volandri, Italy; Alexander Waske, Germany, vs. Greg Rusedski, Britain; Davide Sanguinetti, Italy, vs. Andy Roddick (5), United States; Roger Federer (4), Switzerland, vs. Lee Hyung-taik, South Korea; Stefan Koubek, Austria, vs. Christophe Rochus, Belgium;

WOMEN

Serena Williams (1), United States, vs. Jill Craybas, United States; Els Callens, Belgium, vs. Barbara Rittner, Germany; q-Barbora Strycova, Czech Republic, vs. Tatiana Perebiynis, Ukraine; Alina Jidkova, Russia, vs. Laura Granville (28), United States; Meghann Shaughnessy (19), United States, vs. q-Aniko Kapros, Hungary

Gala Leon Garcia, Spain, vs. q-Martina Sucha, Slovakia; ll-Arantxa Parra, Spain, vs. Zuzana Ondraskova, Czech Republic

Angelika Roesch, Germany, vs. Elena Dementieva (15), Russia; Anastasia Myskina (10), Russia, vs. Henrieta Nagyova, Slovakia; Lina Krasnoroutskaya, Russia, vs. wc-Julie Pullin, Britain; Barbara Schett, Austria, vs. Marta Marrero, Spain; q-Milagros Sequera, Venezuela, vs. Conchita Martinez (18), Spain; Tamarine Tanasugarn (32), Thailand, vs. Akiko Morigami, Japan; Karolina Sprem, Croatia, vs. Iveta Benesova, Czech Republic; Marissa Irvin, United States, vs. Marie-Gaianeh Mikaelian, Switzerland; Myriam Casanova, Switzerland, vs. Jennifer Capriati (8), United States; Justine Henin-Hardenne (3), Belgium, vs. Julia Vakulenko, Ukraine *AP*

SPORTS noodle

ANSWERS **From page A27**

1. False (He missed the glorious feat by 2 blocks.)
2. New Jersey Devils
3. Cristine Rose Mariano
4. Three (3)
5. General Santos
6. St. Louis Cardinals
7. Maria Sharapova

Falcons down Blazers, 77-62

ADAMSON, showing new-found strength, dumped College of St. Benilde, 77-62, yesterday in the Grudge Games of Champions League 2003 at the Makati Coliseum.

The Falcons, rated as an underdog in this year's University Athletic Association of the Philippines, rode on a 25-14 run in the third quarter to pull away from the Blazers, the 2001 National Collegiate Athletic Association champion.

Exploiting the absence of Ronald Capati, Benilde's 6-foot-5 center, the Falcons dominated the boards, 57-37, to overcome 22 turnovers.

Capati sprained an ankle during a tune-up game with the RP national pool last Friday.

"We were about to take advantage of their cold shooting from beyond the 3-point arc," said Adamson coach Luigi Trillo, taking the measure of fellow La Salle product Tonich Yturri, the Blazers' mentor.

Mark Abadia led the Falcons with 13 points while Jeff Tajonera added 12.

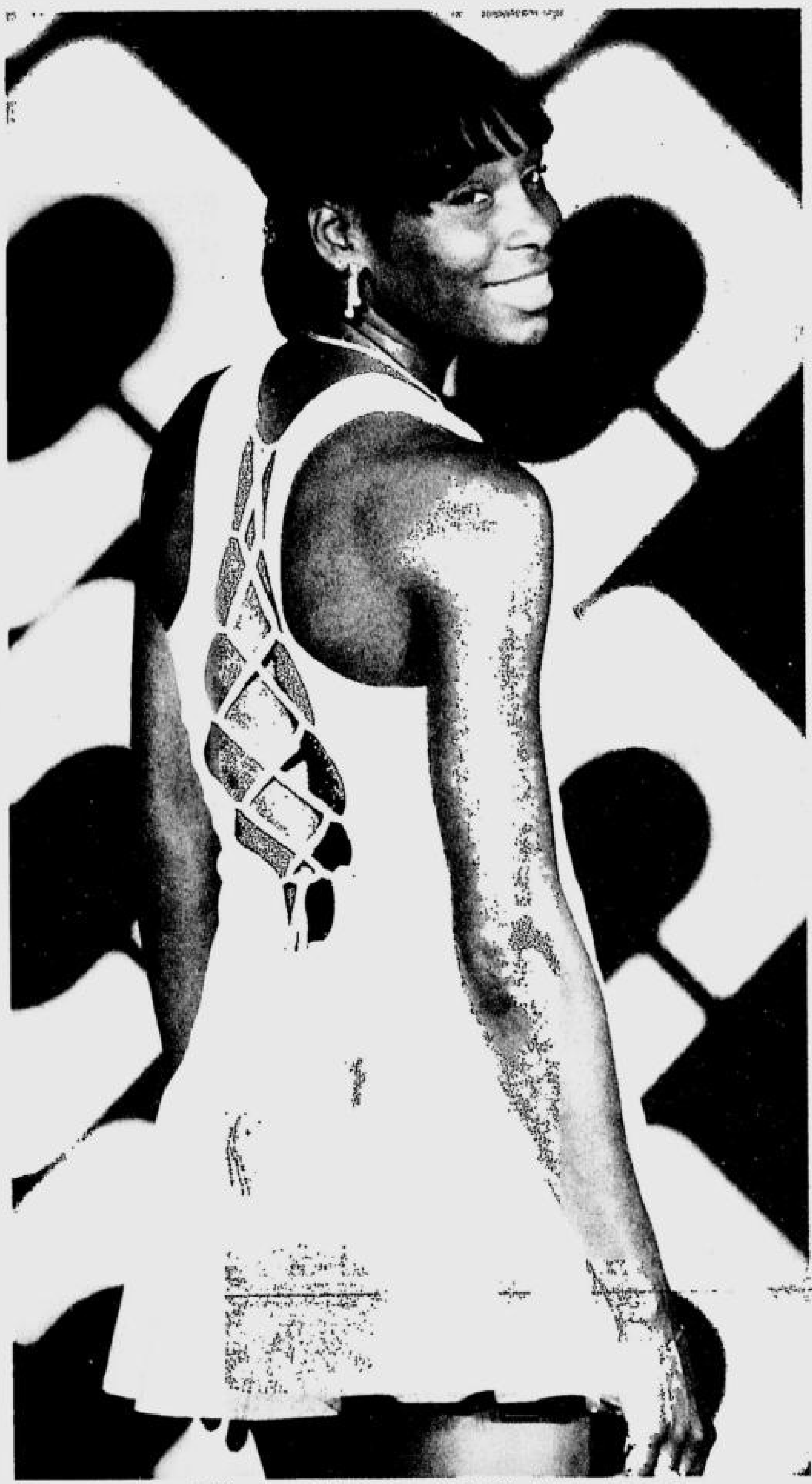
Al Magpayo led St. Benilde with 15 points while Gilbert Sanidad chipped in 12.

Adamson posted its biggest lead at 67-48 after Abadia buried a jumper with 6:34 left.

Nine schools from this pre-tournament, sponsored by Petron, San Miguel, Adidas, Milo and PCSO, will receive invitations for the Round-of-32 national championships in November.

WIMBLEDON

Mauresmo, Safin pull out



US tennis star Venus Williams models her new outfit for Wimbledon on Saturday. REUTERS

WIMBLEDON, England—Amelie Mauresmo and Marat Safin pulled out of Wimbledon with injuries on Friday, while Alex Corretja withdrew for the fifth year in a row—this time because of the birth of his first child.

Mauresmo, the sixth-seeded Frenchwoman, withdrew with a rib injury. Safin, the No. 18 Russian, cited a hand problem. Sweden's unseeded Magnus Norman also pulled out with an unspecified injury.

The two-week tournament begins Monday and, with so many players pulling out, tournament officials have had to make frequent changes to the draw which was made Tuesday.

Spain's Albert Costa, seeded No. 24, withdrew Thursday.

Other players who have withdrawn include former champions Goran Ivanisevic and Richard Krajicek, Marcelo Rios, Monica Seles, Anna Kournikova, former Australian Open champion Thomas Johansson, 1998 French Open winner Carlos Moya and Tommy Haas.

Ivanisevic, Moya, Costa, Corretja, Rios and Haas all withdrew last year, too.

Mauresmo reached the semifinals at Wimbledon last year and was due to play a qualifier in the first round.

Safin, who reached the second round last year and the quarterfinals in 2001, was to face qualifier Michal Mertinak of Slovakia in the first round.

Corretja, a two-time French Open runner-up who prefers to play on clay, hasn't played at Wimbledon since 1998. He withdrew to go to Barcelona to be with his wife, Marta, after the birth of their first child, a daughter named Aroa.

Mauresmo was replaced in the women's draw by Svetlana Kuznetsova of Russia. Kuznetsova now plays American Bea Bielik. Seda Noorlander, a lucky loser, moved into Kuznetsova's original place in the draw.

Safin's place in the men's draw was initially filled by Corretja and the Spaniard's spot was taken by Czech player Tomas Zib, who will face No. 10 Tim Henman of Britain.

MAURESMO: Rib injury AFP

Corretja's withdrawal means the Spaniard is replaced by Radek Stepanek of the Czech Republic, who meets Mertinak.

Stefano Galvani, a lucky loser from Italy, takes Stepanek's original place.

Mauresmo lost 6-1, 6-2 to Serena Williams in the French Open quarterfinals earlier this month.

The French sports daily L'Equipe said Mauresmo sustained a torn rib muscle this week during the Ordina Open in Rosmalen, Netherlands, where she lost in the first round to Barbara Rittner.

Safin has sustained ankle and wrist injuries this season. He won the US Open in 2000 and was regarded as the world's top player at the time. He missed the French Open with a wrist injury. *AP*

Wimby the ultimate prize for Clijsters

DEN BOSCH, Netherlands—World number two Kim Clijsters says winning Wimbledon would mean more to her than any of the other three grand slams.

Clijsters, who crushed Barbara Rittner to reach the Ordina Open final on Friday, thinks the history of Wimbledon elevated it to a status above the French, US and Australian Opens.

The Belgian has reached two French Open finals, losing to Jennifer Capriati in 2001 and her compatriot Justine Henin-Hardenne this year.

"If you see the history of Wimbledon, it means a lot more than the other grand slams," Clijsters said.

"From talking to Lleyton (Hewitt, her boyfriend and the defending Wimbledon champion), for every Australian the biggest thing is to win Wimbledon."

Clijsters said the presence of so many previous champions at Wimbledon merely added to the occasion.

"It's great to have them there but sometimes, when you see them in the executive box, it makes you a little nervous," she said.

Clijsters also hit back at those who questioned her desire after the French Open, where she took defeat graciously having appeared to freeze as Henin-Hardenne became the first Belgian to win a grand slam event.

"Well, sometimes all the media want is for you to sit there and cry so they have something to write about," she said.

"Every day there are things in the newspapers that are much worse than losing a tennis match. I wasn't going to sit in my room feeling sad.

"But I definitely have the desire." *AFP*

Gran Copa Stakes races get under way Tuesday

THE 2003 Gran Copa de Manila reels off this Tueday (June 24) to start a six-day racefest at the Manila Jockey Club's San Lazaro Leisure Park in Carmona, Cavite.

Traditionally coinciding with the Araw ng Maynila celebration since its inception in 1980, the race has long been considered the country's premiere horse racing event.

Last year, a record-breaking P44.7 million in sales was recorded in the Gran Copa day.

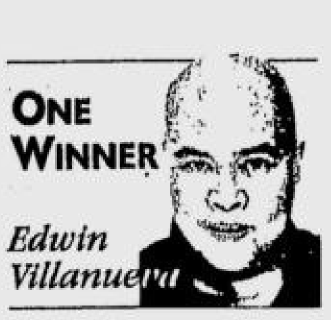
MJCI, in cooperation with the Philippine Racing Commission, the City of Manila and the Municipality of Carmona, will continue the tradition of the Gran Copa de Manila by jointly spearheading the historic cup's 24th running.

"MJCI is truly proud to host another edition of the historic Gran Copa de Manila," said MJCI president and chief executive Alfonso R. Reyno Jr.

Among the probable starters for the Philracom Cup-Division I of the Gran Copa are recent stake winners Golden Ballet and Lyonnais, who will be challenged by seasoned campaigners Hazmoore, Hyperbid, Serena, Perfect Storm, Ariba King, Family Task and Kitty Hawk.

It will be an all-import affair, meanwhile, in the Pagcor Chair Efraim C. Genuino Cup-Division II as group standout Ouzo takes the challenge of imports Absolute Charmer, Audrey's Savings, Buena Sera, Catwalk Pia, Cosanne, Sunny Contender, Suonos, Time Gentleman and You Know That.

Fans want Wind Blown to race at SLLP



ONE WINNER
Edwin Villanueva

RACING fan Ed Banes wants all stewards at the PRCI to resign en masse following that Cycloneferros boo boo. Read on:

Dear Edwin,

This is a follow up on the letter of Mr. Guerra regarding race No. 6 last June 7 at Santa Ana. I would like to add the following:

When No. 4 broke loose, a siren should have sounded to stop the other horses from running and restart the race.

Since they run the race, they should have immediately made an announcement to the public to "hold on to your tickets," an inquiry is under way. This way, the betting public would not have thrown away their tickets. They could have taken all day to decide the matter, but what is important though is that the public has been informed on what is going on and they have been told to hold on to their tickets.

This gross mistake on the part of the stewards and judges is unacceptable. It has created chaos among racing fans.

I have already reiterated in my previous letters that these stewards need to be trained abroad. In view of this boo boo, I call on the stewards of PRC to resign en masse for the good of horseracing in the Philippines. To the owners and executives of the club, when are you going to listen to the clamor of the betting public to have a professional staff, including stewards and judges?

Sincerely Yours,
ED BANES
San Antonio Village,
Makati

***

A rare 5-out-of-5 feat marked Hermie Esguerra's decision to finally race his horses at the San Lazaro Leisure Park in Carmona, Cavite recently.

Hermie scored through Siete de Marso, High Octane, Tatler Cover, Adam's Call and Kayang Kaya, delighting thousands of fans who trooped to the various OTBS to watch his popular gallopers.

By my Silip Boy said the *bayang karerista* wants Hermie to allow Wind Blown to run there.

Currently on vacation, Wind Blown is still everybody's favorite because other horses simply lack the charm which the two-time Horse of the Year awardee has.

The Philracom and the SLLP management should move heaven and earth in coming up with a future race featuring Wind Blown.

If that pushes through, I promise to set foot on the "world class" facility for the first time.

RACING

AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Western legend 2. Scrap of Gold 3. My Shaikh 4. Stallone 5. Parrot Moe

Race 2—1. Real Gem 2. C'est moi 3. Hydrogas 4. He's Splendid

Race 3—1. Shuttle's Magic 2. Jackpot 3. Early Warning 4. Hinobaan Boy

Race 4—1. Husay Na/Mutya ng Nayon 2. Super Lady 3. Bull Treasure 4. Mighty Mickey 5. Boiling Point

Race 5—1. Si Isidro Ko/Despedida 2. Cycloneferros 3. Speed Charm 4. Sealed With A Kiss

Race 6—1. Super Cool 2. Gigi's Gold 3. Virgin Atlantic 4. Joshua Tree 5. Cause of Our Joy

Race 7—1. Scarlet O Tara 2. Hantuchova 3. Gifted Guest 4. Cee Note

Race 8—1. Apple Splash 2. Heading West 3. Dynamite Miss 4. High and Mighty

Race 9—1. E-Mail 2. Green Buck 3. Hezagonebabes 4. Palachik 5. Love Song

Race 10—1. Sandata 2. Capriole 3. Precious Moment 4. Main Street 5. As For Me

Race 11—1. Letshaveaparty 2. Musikero 3. Run Like D Wind 4. Jigolo 5. Mr. Dignity

Race 12—1. Jahard 2. Make Your Mark 3. Winning Prize 4. Harvesting Game 5. St. Emilion

Race 13—1. Tanging Ikaw 2. Hurry King 3. Sunny Sky 4. Miwa's Treasure

Manila Marathon gets going today

VENCE

NATIONAL stalwarts Roy Vence, Allan Ballester and Crisanto Canillo lead a record field of more than 20,000 runners entered in today's Manila Marathon.

Flordeliza Cachero, the country's No. 2, is the favorite in the women's division of the run which serves as one of the qualifying events for the Vietnam Asian Games in December.

Manila Mayor Lito Atienza will fire the starting gun at sunrise. Expected to be with him at the starting line at the Luneta grandstand are officials of the Philippine Sports Commission led by chairperson Eric Buhain and other Manila officials.

Arnold "Ali" Atienza, chair of the Manila Sports Council which is co-organizing the race with the Manila Sports Foundation, will also be on hand during the sendoff of the runners who will vie in five categories.

The centerpiece 42K will be flagged off at 5 a.m. The 10K, 5K and 3K races will start at 6 a.m.

The main race, which has the PSC, the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, SuperFerry, Air21, Selecta Moo-Sunkist-Aqua Prima, Isuzu Philippines Corp. Unilever, Dynapharm and Konka televisions as backers, will be ran on a circuit snaking through Manila's major thoroughfares and business and historical spots.

The event will be covered live over dzSR Sports Radio on 918 khz am beginning at 5:30 a.m. Double Team, hosted by former Asian sprint queen Lydia de'Vega Mercado and former PSC chair Philip Ella Juico, will also devote its June 29 episode to the event on IBC Channel 13 beginning at 2:30 p.m.

'Fearsome Twosome' picked

JOLET Jao and Nikki Romero, known as Shell's "Fearsome Twosome, are favored in the 2003 Shell Advance Super Bike Championships scheduled at the Batangas Racing Circuit this weekend.

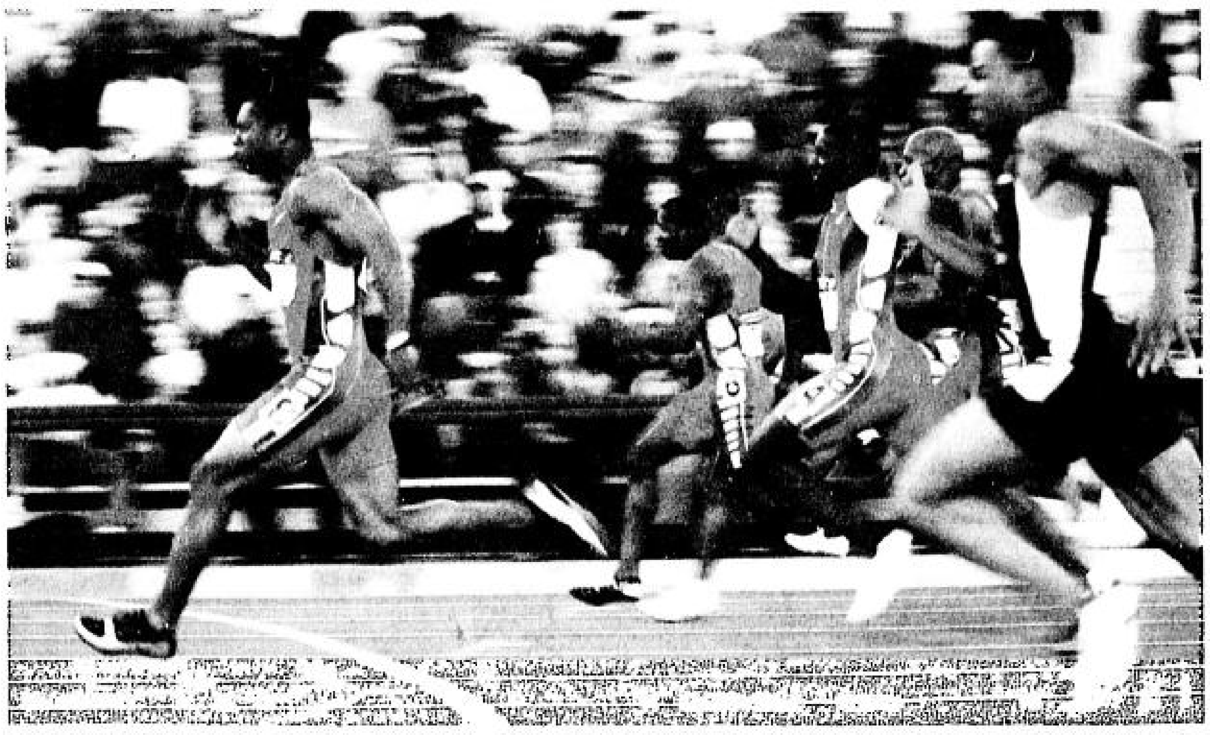
Jao, the country's winningest rider with six titles, and Romero, last year's Rookie of the Year, vowed to sweep the races marking the fifth and sixth rounds and boost their respective title-retention campaigns in this prestigious series considered as the national road racing championships.

Riding a trusty Kawasaki ZX6RR, Jao dominated three of the first four races to take an eight-point lead over Benjo Mendoza, 85-77, in this annual event sanctioned by the National Motorcycle Sports and Safety Association (Namssa).

Jao holds the distinction as the only rider to win the titles in road racing, motocross and scooter. He is also being supported by Kawasaki and Rolex Engineering.

Except in the third round where a wrong tire selection affected his run, Jao displayed near-flawless run to dominate the other three rounds.

Romero, the 26-year old rider of R-II Builders and Club 200, swept the season-opening rounds last March 28 and finished second behind Miguel Bichara in the fourth round last May 25.



BERNARD Williams, left, pulls away from the field, including Tim Montgomery (6), Monzavous Edwards (4) and Marcelle Scales, in blue, in the final of the men's 100 meters. AP

Williams stuns Montgomery in 100

STANFORD, California—Bernard Williams won the men's 100 meters in 10.11 seconds at the US track and field championships after world-record holder Tim Montgomery stumbled early in the race.

"My stride was kind of choppy. I lengthened my stride, and that's when I lost it. I touched the ground," Montgomery said. "Then I just closed my eyes and ran."

Kelli White won the national title in the women's 100 in 10.93, the fastest time in the world this year. Torri Edwards was second and two-time Olympic 100 champion Gail Devers was third in a race missing Marion Jones.

Montgomery was second in the men's race in 10.15 and Jon Drummond was third in 10.18. The top three will be on the US team for the world championships this August in Paris.

Also running in the world championships will be three-time defending champion Maurice Greene, who has been Montgomery's archrival for years.

Montgomery broke Greene's world record last year in Paris with a time of 9.78, and will get a chance to dethrone him as world champ later this summer.

Montgomery said he was fortunate just to qualify for the world championships after stumbling on his third stride Friday night.

"I was ready to run, but some things aren't meant to happen at certain times," he said. "I lost the battle but I can still win the war."

Montgomery's defeat in the 100 was yet another setback in what has been a tough year for the world-record holder.

He has faced the pressures of being the world's fastest man, of preparing for parenthood with the world's fastest woman, and of being criticized for associating with a coaching pariah.

"No one felt my pain for the last six months and everybody knows stress wears you down," he said after Thursday's heats. "I'm very happy I put everything in my past."

Montgomery and girlfriend Jones broke with coach Trevor Graham early this year and then began a controversial flirtation with disgraced coach Charlie Francis—who was connected to steroid use by Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson in the 1980s.

Jones and Montgomery quickly ended their relationship with Francis after criticism from international and US track officials, but not before having their image tarnished—and their judgment questioned. *AP*

NEWSPAPER
DRIVE

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Sunday BIZ

Business Features Editor **Margie Quimpo-Espino**

He took to heart his dad's vow never to be poor

AGUILUZ

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

IT is tough enough standing out in a family of talented and dynamic siblings, what more if you share your father's name with six brothers.

"Our father (Amable M. Aguiluz Sr.) wanted to be different, he wanted to have juniors in just one generation," says Amable R. Aguiluz V, founder and chair of Asia's first and largest IT university bearing the patriarch's initials.

(Aguiluz says his father was a bosom buddy of President Diosdado Macapagal as they both grew up from the same humble beginnings in Pampanga.)

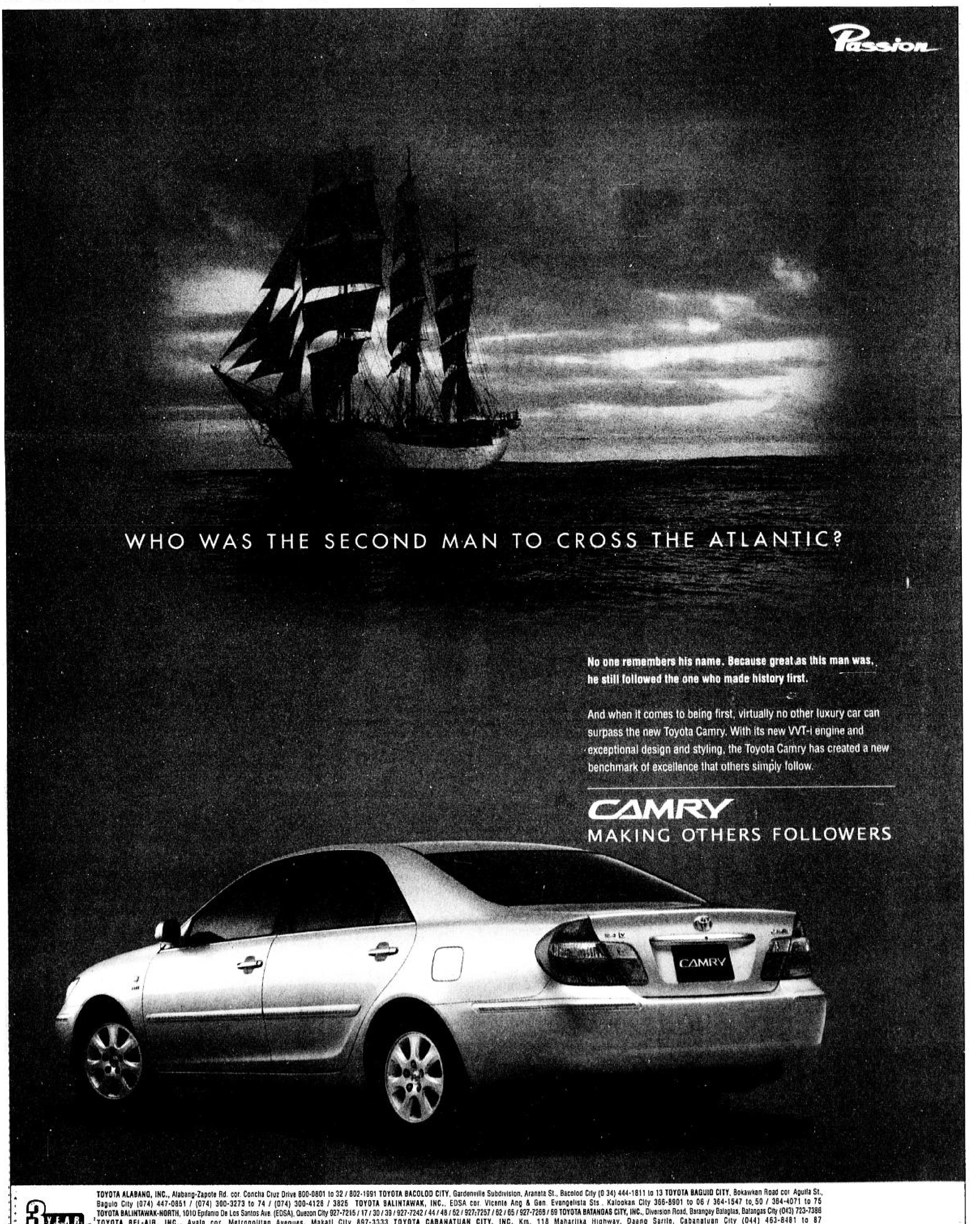
FIRST JOB

Aguiluz was called "King" to differentiate him from the rest of the Amables which include film director Tikoy Aguiluz. "King" proved to be an apt nickname for Aguiluz as it turned out that he had the Midas touch in business.

"I was the only one who had a knack for making money and I wanted to excel in this field to make my father proud," Aguiluz says. He took to heart his father's vow never to be poor in this life.

His first experience in running an enterprise came 40 years ago when his father or-

HE TOOK/ B2



No one remembers his name. Because great as this man was, he still followed the one who made history first.

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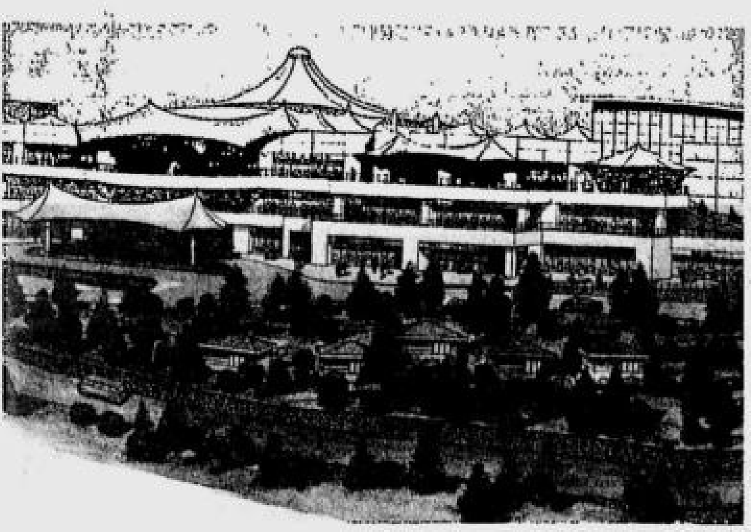


SM Baguio to open this year.

Mall moves beyond the Metro

SM recently hosted a preview of the three supermalls it will be opening in 2003—SM City Lucena, SM City Baguio and SM City Marilao. The preview, which was held at the SM Corporate Office in the Bay area was attended by business associates, many of whom responded to SM's invitation to join its Moving Beyond the Metro.

The three supermalls, which are scheduled to open in the last quarter of the year, are located in key areas in Luzon that present exciting market potentials. Lucena in the south is rich in culture and history; Baguio in the north is a major tourist destination; while Marilao in the central area is rapidly moving towards urbanization.

The three supermalls will have a total area opf over 267,000 square meters.

No less than SM founder and chairman Henry Sy Sr. was present to welcome the guests. SM executive vice president Hans Sy, VP for operations Annie Garcia, SVP for operations Jorge Mendiola and SVP for controllership Ricky Lim, joined him.

The simple program hosted by broadcast journalist Cielo Villaluna consisted of an audiovisual presentation, and the dramatic unveiling of the three malls in three exciting locations—Lucena known for its cultural and artistic heritage and coconut plantations; Baguio, the country's summer capital with its cool climate, pine trees and mountains; and Marilao with its growing residential and industrial sites. Ending the simple ceremonies was a speech by SAVP for leasing Daisy Chua.

Among the business associates who attended the event were shop and boutique owners and executives: Toby's Roberto Claudio; Astrovision's Jimmy Lim;

MALL/B3

Leadership is first, an internal matter

By Dante M. Velasco
Contributor

"The 21 Most Powerful Minutes in a Leader's Day"
By John C. Maxwell
Maxwell Motivation Inc., 2000

EXECUTIVE READ

BOOKS on leadership range from theories using socio-psychological studies to how-to manuals promising instant transformation.

At rare times, there are books that annotate the life and career of true-to-life leaders, set against the backdrop of an era—and, from such review, draw conclusions on what makes a leader.

The debate on whether a leader is born or made has already proven to be a non-issue, since several studies have shown that leaders can indeed be "made"—or developed—given the right exposure and coaching.

Books such as these give us theories drawn from experience and experimentation, if they are not introducing us to celebrated leaders from whose lives and exploits we model our own leadership styles.

And yet there is something so essential that must not be neglected by any aspiring leader: He must develop according to the natural gifts given to him and, to put it philosophically, in line with the "destiny" that has been written for him as a unique individual.

Realizing your potential

Someone pointed out: "If you preoccupy yourself imitating someone else, you are not giving yourself the chance to realize your own full potential."

If John is meant to be a leader in his own unique way as an individual, that potential will never be fulfilled if John is busy becoming like Peter. You just don't lose your identity; you lose your destiny.

That's why leadership is, first of all, an internal affair. And an aspiring leader must spend time in solitude to re-discover his passions, hopes, dreams, beliefs, gifts and even his limits.

There is a book that would enable you to do just that: "The 21 Most Powerful Minutes in a Leader's Day." It is not meant to be read in one sitting, since it is designed to be taken in daily bites through five days a week. Since there are 21 subjects, they will be covered in 21 weeks.

'Devotional' material

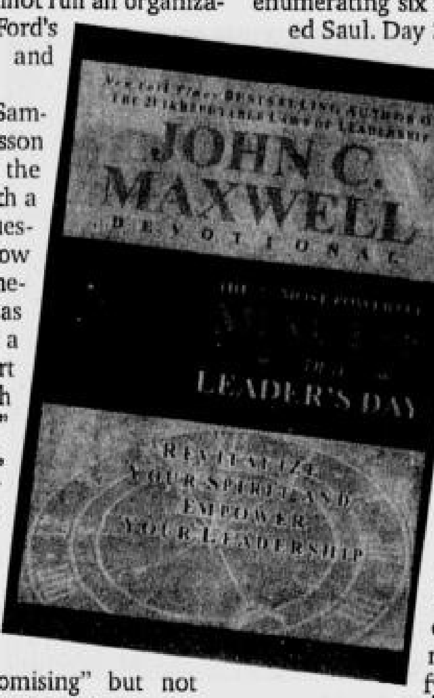
The author, John Maxwell, offers his book as a "devotional" material—an essay or story short enough to leave some space for meditation and re-thinking.

"Every day focuses on one predominant leadership thought, contains a lesson learned from the biblical leader, and poses a question for you to meditate on all day long," Maxwell explains.

Many of us identify leaders of ancient times with historic events—Moses had his tablets of Ten Commandments, Samson had his long hair and extraordinary strength, David had his astonishing victory over Goliath and Esther had her role to save the nation of Israel with her incomparable beauty and charm.

What's not familiar is that, in Moses' career would we be introduced to a first lesson in "delegation"—when his father-in-law Jethro noted that he was overworked dealing with multitudes running to millions.

In our century, we learned that Henry Ford, unprepared for the dramatic growth of his assembly line, was overworked with his "centric" style of management. It took his sons to remind him that he alone cannot run an organization of Ford's magnitude and complexity.



About Samson, the lesson is stated in the negative with a pained question: "How could someone who has given such a strong start in life finish so poorly?" In our time, we are witnesses to promising young leaders who, in the end, always "promising" but not "achieving." Why? The book says they do not fulfill the "Law of Solid Ground."

Then Queen Esther, is not only charm and beauty. She is master of the "Law of Timing." She dealt with a life and death issue in the life of her nation. It was her planning and deliberate timing that saved the day for her and her nervous countrymen.

Then, you ask: Why do some leaders achieve more and others achieve less. The book has the "Law of the Lid" to explain it. The "lid" is the limit above one's aspiration. The good news is such a "lid" is moveable—because there are "lid lifters". The account on David versus King Saul is illuminating. Question on Day 1 in the book is: "Why did Saul fail as Israel's king while David, who appeared to be weaker, succeeded?"

Day 2 provides the answer (but that's getting ahead by a day) by enumerating six "lids" that limited Saul. Day 3 reading examines the character and "support system"—the "lid lifters" of David.

Many more historical (or biblical) characters are discussed in this book from a leadership or management standpoint. Shorn of religious undertones, the discussion enables readers to identify with this warm-blooded personalities from a whole new way of viewing them.

If Buddha, Confucius or Mohammed—or even the Dalai Lama—have been analyzed or quoted for their thoughts on life and leadership—why can't we go back to the wellsprings of Israel's storied past to be introduced to these leaders?

The good thing is the book, 368 pages, is designed to be at your favorite corner at home for an early morning "quiet time" or at your office desk for a noon time pause to drink from life's endless springs. Either way, these 21 most powerful minutes could also be your defining moments in your life as a leader. (*dantemv@i-next.net*)

He took to heart his dad's vow never to be poor

From page B1

dered him to oversee the family's taxi business in Davao. Aguiluz, who was then a college sophomore at UP Manila, dutifully read the meters, checked the tires and batteries, handled the finances and took care of the costs incurred by the drivers in accidents. During school season, Aguiluz kept the tabs on the taxi business through a trusted caretaker.

After 12 months, Aguiluz and his father felt they were ready for the big time so they expanded their fleet from 2 to 100 units. Aguiluz says he negotiated with car dealers Dante Silverio and Pabling Carlos to release the units with minimal down payment.

But as the business grew, so did Aguiluz's headaches. He recalls the regulated fare could not cover the rising costs of parts and fuel, pilferage was rampant, and managing too many drivers was too much for a college undergraduate to handle.

Aguiluz later turned over the reins of the taxi franchise to his eldest brother (who decided to live in Davao) and he went back to Manila to finish college.

Learning the basics

The taxi business folded up a few years later because drivers abused his brother's benign management. *"Laging pinagbibigyan ang mga drivers pag bumabali. Sa akin hindi pwede yon,"* Aguiluz says.

"It's the first business I went into and it's the last that I'll ever consider going back into," says Aguiluz. But while life as a taxi operator proved to be a nightmare, Aguiluz says it was during that period that he learned his basics. "I learned the importance of being in control to the last nut and bolt and the risks of mixing family and business."

Aguiluz still keeps a direct hand in the operation of all AMA schools and computer centers and he has maintained his policy of barring any relatives up to the 5th degree from working in the company.

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo named Amable R. Aguiluz V as special envoy to the Gulf Cooperation Council countries during the 2003 Commencement Exercises of AMA Computer University.

To the Aguiluz family

LAWYER Amable M. Aguiluz Sr. was the national treasurer and auditor-general of the Philippines under President Diosdado Macapagal. He named all seven sons Amable after himself (he had one daughter, Marian), beginning a tradition that now has an Amable XVII.

Following the taxi stint, Aguiluz, who took evening classes to keep his hands busy during the day, landed a job as technical assistant to one of the top officials of Napocor where he saw first-hand how a board reviews and decides on corporate matters. This experience has helped him deal with government officials in his other business undertakings later in life.

Martial law

Armed with a business degree and a wedding ring (he married his girlfriend shortly after graduation), Aguiluz went back to Davao in 1969 to run the family's logging business and get back control of the taxi operations for three years.

The family business suffered when martial law was declared and Aguiluz was forced to go back to Manila. He immediately set up a trading firm where he used his skills in wheeling and dealing with top traders from the Philippines, Europe and the Middle East on commodities ranging from fertilizer to rice to cement.

In 1975, Aguiluz shifted from commodities trading to retail marketing where he hawked a variety of novelty items such as sealant that make tires puncture-proof and a smokers kit that stops the yearning for nicotine after a few weeks.

Finding his fortune

Aguiluz hit the jackpot when he became the exclusive distributor of "Controller" calculators in the Philippines which he got from Hong Kong and sold for only P175 each. He says this revolutionized the pricing of calculators that were then were as pricey as today's laptop computers.

But while he admitted that he has more misses than hits at this point in his career, he says this phase has made him more resilient, more attuned to the buyers' pulse and more appreciative of the value of advertising.

Aguiluz also tried his luck in Africa where he managed a construction business but did not stay long because he missed his family terribly. When he came back in 1978, Aguiluz read a Fortune article on the California-based Computerland, the world's pioneer and largest computer retailer. "I didn't know anything about Apple or Commodore back then. But I told my wife I'd go to the US and get a franchise for the Philippines. I told her this would make me a fortune," Aguiluz says.

It did.

He would indeed build a fortune in computer but not in selling them but in teaching thousands of Filipinos how to use them.

Aguiluz became Computerland's 20th franchisee and the first in Asia. He invested a million pesos in inventory and it took him six months before he sold his first unit. He says the units were too expensive even for the small and medium sized companies that could not afford the more expensive mainframes.

Faced with poor sales and a huge inventory, Aguiluz deployed the idle computers for use by 13 students in the first AMA school along Shaw Boulevard in 1980. "I felt that I could create a big demand for computers if more Filipinos get more intimate with computers first hand," says Aguiluz.

As it turned out, the AMA Computer University would push the retail business out of significance. In its second year, AMA's enrollees rose to 100.

By 1984, AMA had an advertisement which said:"1,000 students cannot go wrong."

At this point, Aguiluz says computer awareness had already boomed with computer schools mushrooming in Metro Manila and major universities adding computer science to their courses.

Aguiluz says AMA has remained as the preferred choice for computer education because he ran the school just like a business.

"I'm not a hypocrite to say I created AMA not because of the profits. We charge high tuition fees because we want to maintain our quality standards and keep an excellent faculty. How can we make money if we don't deliver quality education and teachers?"

Lifetime commitment

Aguiluz has made computer education his lifetime commitment and legacy. For the last 20 years, Aguiluz says he has ploughed back the profits to the expansion and upkeep of AMA schools and he has turned down all offers for the school to go public.

"No asset can be sold unless it will be used to expand the business. It's a family business and it will remain one as long as it exists," says Aguiluz who plans to turn over the business to his son, Amable C. Aguiluz IX (owner of ACA Video).

AMA already has over 150,000 students in over 200 campuses and satellite branches nationwide but Aguiluz wants more. The AMA Computer group is investing P2.4 billion to build a 50-hectare information technology university complex in General Trias, Cavite over the next 5 years. Dubbed the AMA Telepolis, it would be the first and largest IT university town in Asia patterned after the Harvard University campus which could accommodate up to 4,000.

"My dream is to leave a legacy that would last forever just like the pyramids and that I would be remembered as an entrepreneur—period."

FRONT: Grandson Marty (Amable XVII), Amable V, wife Cielo and granddaughter Camy. (Back) Daughter Ma. Angela, son Amable IX, daughter in-law Christine and youngest daughter Ma. Clara.

Mall moves beyond the Metro

BEAGLE House's Jean Cu and Brenda So

MINT'S Stella Cio-Sy (right) with associate

From page B2

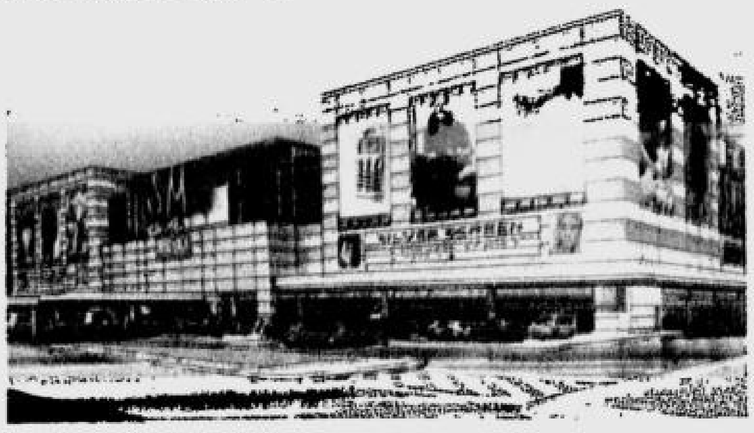
Blue Magic's Martin, Rosemarie and Rodolfo Limgenco and Ramil Dizon; Beagle House's Jean Chua and Brenda So; Time Depot's Richmond Lim; Arrow's Huy Kun Lim; Celine's Chan Kok; Diplomat's Harry Limtong and Zeny Atienza; ITTI and Caterpillar's Manolo Samson; Marcella's Rosie Co; Egg and Regalong Pambahay's Mary Ann de la Vega; Optical Works' Dr. Susan Garcia; Mint's Stella Co-Sy; and Rusty Lopez's Jose Rizaldy Alarcon and Lolito Lopez.

Top fast food chain and restaurant owners and managers also had a look-see: Tokyo Tokyo's Ivan Ramos; Kitaro's Angeline Cukingnan; Cherry Blossom Restaurant's Susan Foo; Burger King's Robbie Yam; and Sbarro and Burgoo's Ma. Theresa Rodriguez.

Those in the leisure/service business who attended were Travelpros' Cris Aquino; Weighless Center's Joel Mendez; My Playroom's Grace Vargas; Car Truck Center's Rene Ong; Quantum's Irwin Ponce; and Smart's Pancho Dino.

Homegrown tenants from Lucena, Baguio and Marilao also attended the event, promising an even more exciting mix for shoppers in these areas. Among these were Buddy's Cherry Blossom and Koffee Klatch from Lucena; Get Hub? Internet and Mario's Kitchen from Baguio; and Kotse Kotse Ko and Orodiam from Marilao.

The opening of SM City Lucena, SM City Baguio and SM City Marilao are part of SM Prime Holding's program to open at least two supermalls a year.



SM Lucena

WEIGHLESS Center's Dr. Joel Mendez

SM Bulacan

SM founder and chair Henry Sy Sr., EVP Hans Sy and VP for Operations Annie Garcia.

HANS Sy with Kusia ni Gracia's Mr. Gobing

TIME Depot's Richmond Lim (left) and Tokyo Tokyo's Ivan Ramos (below)

RUSTY Lopez's Jose "Rizaldy" Alarcon, SM's Daisy Chua and Lolito Lopez.

OPTICAL Work's Susan Garcia

SBARRO and Burgoo's Ma. Teresa Rodriguez, Daisy Chua and Marcella's Rosie Co

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Editor **Aries Espinosa**

8th GTAAA honors this years awardees

IT HAS been an endearing eight years of fostering academic excellence and camaraderie. Globe Telecom is extremely proud to be part of the Globe Telecom Academic Achievement Awards (GTAAA), which through the years, has enjoined the participation of various areas in the country.

"Despite what is happening around us, it is things like the GTAAA awarding that make me remain optimistic and hopeful that there are definitely more good things to come for us than bad," says Globe senior vice president, for corporate and regulatory affairs Rodolfo Salalima. "The GTAAA is a positive and encouraging development for us because it applauds the great achievements of our students."

The GTAAA was inspired by the Ayala Group of Companies' commitment to nation-building by way of generating youth-oriented programs, Globe Telecom has conceptualized an annual search for the "best of the best" from each year's graduating students (both in college and high school) geared towards the fields of Electronics and Communications and Electrical Engineering (ECE and EE), and Science and Math. The search serves as a fitting tribute to students who have exemplified their achievements through their outstanding performance. And over the past eight years, the best have been privileged to receive the awards from the GTAAA.

This year's overall winner Christopher Roland Basmayor of Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila an ECE graduate and summa cum laude.

The other winners in the high school categories are: Marlena Joy Barker, Kings College of Isulan; Richardson Billones Jr., Makati Science High School; Sheena Nova Binoya, Notre Dame of Kidapawan College; Charlene Lesley Chan, Leyte Progressive High School; Josine Marie Conti, Saint Bridget College; Sheela Ann Datukon, Albert Einstein School; Neil Anthony Gidlayan, University of Negros Occidental-Recoletos; Dianne Mina de Guzman, Our Lady of Perpetual Succor College; Arriane Mae Napiñas, Christ the King College; Lou Angela Oliveros, Divine Word College-San Jose; Irish Jay Pasamonte, Palawan National School; Angelo Carlos Reyes, La Salle Greenhills; Florante Robin, Tagbilaran City Science High School; Maria Kristina Roderos, Cebu City National Science High School; Leonideza Romano, Iligan City East High Schools; Jun Carlo Sunglao, La Immaculada Concepcion School; John Anthony Tindoc, Silliman University High School; Marie Frances Tolentino, Leuteboro National High School; Dianne Ago, Colegio de las Hijas de Jesus; Dangell Villanueva, Cavite National Science High School.

The college awardees are: John Andrew Balandra, Xavier University Ateneo de Cagayan; Ronald Balinas, Adamson University; Eric Coma, University of Southeastern Philippines; Julie Ann Dalisay, Ateneo de Davao University; Emmanuel Fuentes, Mindanao Polytechnic State College; Jonathan Ibera, Mapua Institute of Technology; Maria Janice Lecias, University of St. La Salle-Bacolod; Irish Ledesma, Central Philippine University; Leneth Libre, University of San Carlos-Technological Center; Joyreen Maceda, MSU-Iligan Institute of Technology; Harold Mendoza, Saint Louis University; Genesis Tan, University of Santo Tomas; Paul Jason Tan, De La Salle University; Noel Torres, Silliman University; Ian Victorino, Don Bosco Technical College and Jred Villafranca, UP Diliman.

GLOBELINES BITES INTO ROCKWELL CLUB'S WINE AND CHEESE PARTY

Wine and cheese are a natural pair. Every dining connoisseur would agree that the soft, salty tang of cheese works best when complemented with the sharp, sweet flavor of fine wine. To bring the two delectable treats together in a wine and cheese party - where one gets a chance to experiment with different combinations of wines and cheeses - is a welcome. Globelines, the wireline phone service of Globe Telecom - recently sponsored the wine and cheese party at The Curb at the Rockwell in Makati to give the guests a taste of their good wine and cheese. The relaxing treat gave them the opportunity for intimate discussions, or simply bonding. Entrance to the wine and cheese party is sponsored by Globelines for Rockwell Club members and with a minimal fee for their guests and friends. Photo shows Globe's Rica Guevarra, Lara Marie Lua, Rockwell Club's Cherry Solidumm and Globe's Mechel Tion gracing the event.

Kinulob Festival: No chicken feat for Globelines

CHICKENS play a vital role for the people of Mabini, Batangas because poultry and poultry products are a major source of livelihood for these folks - and a pride of the municipality as well.

Native chickens are cooked in various ways from inihaw to nilaga to adobo and tinola. But their favorite is kinulob.

Kinulob is a way of cooking where the chicken is broiled in a tightly enclosed tin container over flaming charcoal.

Mabini's Kinulob Festival - a new annual tradition that started in 2002 was conceptualized to pay tribute to and honor the municipality's native chicken-raisers, as well as preserve and celebrate their traditions.

During the festival, Mabini folks dress in colorful chicken-inspired costumes and parade around the town while happily dancing and chanting as they walk. Each Mabini barangay prepares its own costumes and dance numbers as they compete with each other as they try out to perform and out dress each other during the festival.

There are small hand-carried floats that feature dressed-up chickens cooked in the kinulob way, which are part of the parade. In the parade held recently there was one kinulob chicken which was dressed in a tiny gown with a wig to boot. There was even a whole basketball team of kinulob chickens acting as if they were engaged in a rowdy basketball game.

Aside from the parade, there were booths, which were set up by all the barangays where even more kinulob chickens were on display. The great thing about the booths was that each of the visitors could hop from one booth to the other to get a taste of kinulob chicken at its finest.

Batangas is a service area of Globelines, the wireline phone service of Globe Telecom. A major sponsor of the festival, Globelines joined the activities by parading chicken floats, which represented Globelines services such as Net Express, 3-way calling, call forwarding and call waiting. Globelines also participated in the fun by helping select the winners and giving prizes for the best floats, booths and performers.

The summer heat during the parade may have made everyone in the parade feel a little like the kinulob chickens but Globelines is happy that it was one of the hot sponsors of the parade.

Register now!

GLOBE, VISA AND E-STORE EXCHANGE JOIN FOR GLOBEAUTOLOAD

Globe Telecom, the leader in digital communication has formed an allegiance with equally pioneering companies, Visa and E-store Exchange, for the newest, hassle-free and most convenient way of autoloading Globe Prepaid credits. The GlobeAutoload via Visa Credit Cards, powered by E-store Exchange, is the first in the Philippine telecom industry to offer this worry-free, on-sked autoloading of prepaid credits made available for Globe Prepaid subscribers. The partnership among the three companies was pursued to make way for Globe's initiatives to introduce convenient and innovative services for Globe prepaid subscribers. Inking the deal during the contract signing are Alan Supnet, Globe marketing director and head of consumer usage for prepaid business; Globe AVP and head of prepaid business marketing, Buda Concio; Visa country manager Anton Romulo; and JJ Samuel Soriano, president and CEO of E-store Exchange.

TAAL VIEW HEIGHTS HOLDS SOFT LAUNCH

Taal View Heights Nature Villas of Ledesco Development Corp. recently had its soft launching for its phase 3 following the success of its phase 1 and 2. Seen gracing the occasion were 'Magandang Umaga Bayan - Weekend' anchors Shaira Luna, Karen Padilla, RJ Ledesma (who is also the EVP of Ledesco) and 'Recuerdo de Amour' character actress Rina Reyes. This is in keeping with the company's mission of 'making the best real estate investment available today.'

Peso / CFC TG holds mega job fair

THE CALL of the church for the third millenium is to build the church of the poor. Couple's For Chris's (CFC) response to and participation in this work is through its social ministries. One critical component of working with the poor is socio-economic renewal and the vehicle for this work is the Tekton Guild.

One of TG's components is human resource development whose members are with CFC and are seasoned HR practitioners, as well. They are a search engine network that provides opportunities and assistance to both professionals and skilled workers in terms of manpower pooling and job placement. HRD is also into skills and other training programs purposively to hone and better the craft of people in need of work.

In celebration of CFC's 22nd anniversary, a job fair has been recently done. CFC Tekton Guild together with Public Employment Service Office in coordination with the Department of Labor and Employment have conducted mega job fairs entitled Gawad Kabuhayan at Hanapbuhay, last June 20, 8:00 to 4:00 p.m. simultaneously at the PICC, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City and the covered walk of the Quezon City hall. It was supported by Cong. Ed Zialcita of Parañaque and Quezon City Mayor Sonny Belmonte.

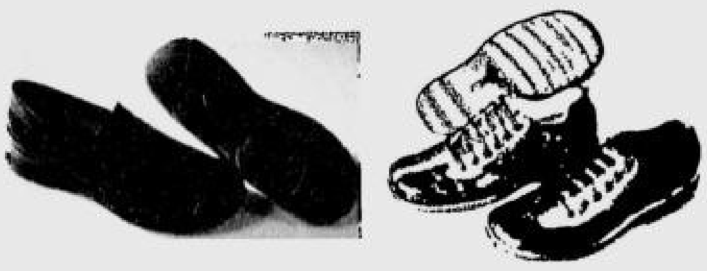
LYCEUM COLLEGE OF LAW INAUGURATION

Retired Supreme Court Justice Isagani Cruz and Court of Appeals Associate Justice Amelita Tolentino lead the ribbon cutting ceremony during the inauguration of the Lyceum of the Philippines College of Law last June 16, in Makati City. Lyceum president Roberto Laurel, Lyceum chair Sotero Laurel and Senator Jovito Salonga, holder of the Jose P. Laurel professional chair on law and public policies, look on.

ProductFILES

Rockport comfort shoes

ROCKPORT is out with its newest casual collection for the ladies' discriminating taste. The Sommersault (left photo) offers a convenient slip-on design with a soft, padded collar. The Haymarket (right photo) sport casual shoe boasts of its original style and with a fashionable upper that includes a comfortable padded collar. An EVA foam footbed with an EVA heelcup provides lightweight cushioning and polyurethane outsole for lasting traction. Rockport designs, produces and distributes specially engineered comfort footwear for men and women worldwide, as well as apparel and accessories. Visit the Rockport store in Glorietta 3, Alabang Town Center, Robinsons Place Ermita, The Podium, Festival Mall, SM City Manila, SM Bicutan, SM North Edsa, SM Southmall.



Gotcha-style adventures with Six Flags

TAME the raging war freak inside of you with Six Flags' Instruments of fun. Create your own war campaign with these high tech toy guns: Bazooka Blast, Stealth Attack Micro Blaster and Ball Blast Attack without the collateral damage. Their missiles are made from soft foam material, so they don't damage or hurt. You can safely use them indoor and outdoor. Six Flags Extreme Sports Toys are solely distributed by Smarty Toys Corp. and are available in all SM Department Stores and Toy Kingdom outlets nationwide.

Bits Clips

P I M Bingo for the children

BINGO Bonanza Corp., the country's biggest bingo parlor chain, ties up with Bantay Bata 163 and Mission Angels-Society of the Divine Word, in a big bingo social today at the World Trade Center. Millions of prizes are at stake including the jackpot prize of one million pesos, three brand new cars, and other cash giveaways. Tickets are priced at P1,000 each, good for ten regular games. Tickets are available at Metro Manila Bingo Bonanza parlors. For more information, call 637-2520 or 637-5292, loc.128 or 108. Interested parties may call Bantay Bata 163 office at 411-0856, or the Society of the Divine Word secretariat at 721-7457. This bingo social is for the benefit of Bantay Bata 163 Children's Village and the Mission Angels-SVD Sanctuario de San Vicente de Paul.

Fund raising campaign for schoolchildren

TNT INTERNATIONAL Express announced it is projecting to raise an initial $120,000 as its 4,000-strong employees in Asia walk 30,000 kms., equivalent to traveling across the world, today, in support of the United Nations World Program (WFP). Dubbed "Walk the World", countries include the Philippines, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam. As part of its partnership with the United Nations, funds raised during the event will directly be channeled to WFP's School Feeding Program, a project the company has committed to support over the next five years through its "Moving the World" program. Funds will be used to provide food, improve sanitation, and fundamental educational needs including books and classrooms to schoolchildren.

'Sunstroke, the ultimate mobile mania'

FOR every MMS handset bought through Sunstroke, subscribers may purchase a Hewlett-Packard Photosmart 130 printer at 25 percent off from the original price; and a free photoprinting of any picture stored in the MMS handset. "Sunstroke, the ultimate mobile mania" is happening simultaneously until today at Robinsons Place Manila, Power Plant Rockwell, Shangri-La Plaza Mall, Festival Mall Alabang, Robinsons Bacolod, Galsano Davao, and Portavaga Baguio. The 10-day celebration provides a virtual one-stop shop to bring its services closer to the consumers. New subscribers and switchers can do the works - application, approval, purchase and activation - during the event.

Laguna Institute Batch '78 reunion

ALL 1978 graduates of Laguna Institute (day and night) are enjoined to attend its Silver Anniversary today, at Laguna College of Business and Arts (formerly Laguna Institute) auditorium. Activities start at 7:00 a.m. Alumni are requested to get in touch with Tess Malabanan at 0917-953-5070 and 0920-224-6158, Leo Navea at (049) 545-4813 and Ma. Jessica Huelgas-Rivera at (049) 545-6659.

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ARAW NG MAYNILA

Amalgamated Specialties Corp. (Amspec) the maker of Li'l Hands Arts and Crafts products and Crayola crayons joined hands with Museo Pambata for the on-the-spot art contest entitled 'Buhayin ang Maynila sa Guhit ng Bata'. The contest is in celebration of Araw ng Maynila and aims to recognize historical places in Manila, as well as lifestyles of the Manileños. Photo shows Amspec's lovable mascot Ms Crayola, Amspec marketing manager Antonette Ravana-Severino and Museo Pambata executive director Madonna del Mundo. Standing from left is Li'l Hands business development officer Riza Crisostomo-Abian and Museo Pambata PR director Chi Sales. Lots of prizes await talented children. Crayola and Li'l Hands Arts and Crafts products are non-toxic, safe for kids and best for young art lovers to use.

Manila City Chorale in 'Concert at the Park'

TODAY, Concert at the Park presents the Manila City Chorale under the musical direction of Sharon Abesamis, in a program dubbed "Pagpupugay sa ika - 432 Araw ng Maynila". The program features an array of folk music, patriotic and love songs, and some OPM collections. Susan Fernandez is program host. The Manila City Chorale is composed of musically inclined employees from different departments of the Manila City hall. As singing ambassadors of the city government of Manila, it was formed to showcase various renditions of songs to cater to all city government functions and other invitational performances. The group is supported by Manila Mayor Lito Atienza. Its music director, Susan Abesamis, is a member of the world renowned Philippine Madrigal Singers. Admission to Concert at the Park is free of charge. The public is cordially invited. Program starts at 6:00 p.m.

Sandal-maker takes his business one step at a time

By Emir Gamis
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

IROSIN, Sorsogon—If business is not a walk in the park, then no one should go there unshod. And to sandal-maker Joel Encinares, 30, a pair of sandals can go a long way and works wonders as well.

Joel, or Nono as he is fondly called, is the soft-speaking owner of Lakat (it literally means a walk or a journey), an up-and-coming business located in San Juan, Irosin, that makes sandals, *tsinelas* (slippers), cell phone holders, coin purses, wallets, necklaces and bracelets using designs one doesn't usually catch up in common commercial stores.

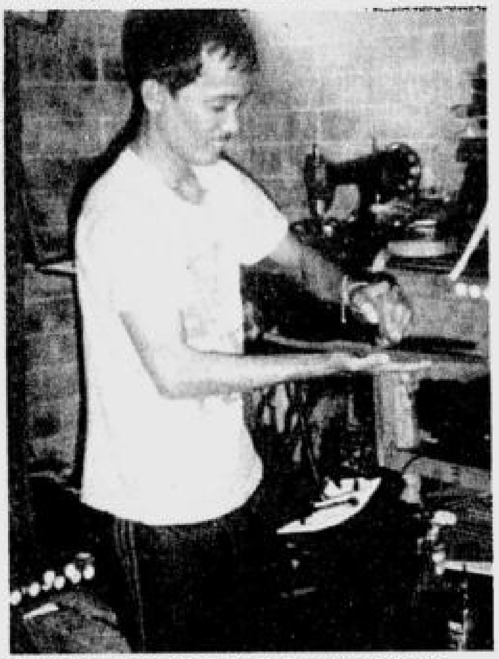
As for the walk-in-the-park aspect, Nono says he has not had an easy start either, having had to make only one or two pairs of sandals in the beginning, which he would sell to his friends.

Designs

Nono started as a customer. He would conceptualize the designs and then ask a maker in Gubat town to execute it.

"I'm really fond of sandals. My friends would ask me where I bought my sandals since they liked it. When they had really been asking me for some time, I thought there must be a good market for sandals," he related.

Nono, a self-confessed cycling enthusiast and mountain climber, would soon find his creativity expressed in sandal making.


LAKAT owner Nono finds happines in his work WILLIAM NARVADEZ

The sandal-maker from Gubat, who eventually became his friend, supported Nono when he bought materials to make sandals on his own and even suggested the name Lakat.

Nono started making and designing sandals for himself, until his friends would order from him.

As orders poured in, he seriously ventured in the business, with a modest capital of about P1,000.

He celebrated his three years in the sandal business last May 14.

Night work

"I had no sewing machine then. I was driving a friend's tricycle during the day so I would sew my products a little by hand at night, just to paste them, and then bring them to a friend who makes backpacks the next morning," Nono says.

In about eight months, he had his first sewing machine.

He now owns six sewing machines, two of which are electric, and has hired people as well.

"I really saved my income to buy materials, since the vogue then was the sandals, which sold for P300, while the *tsinelas*, which later gained a following, sold for only P175. It was easier to make money before," says Nono, who claims he has no vices.

Word of mouth

Nono says demand for his sandals was created by word of mouth—friends wearing his sandals would be asked by their own friends where they had their sandals made.

He even has friends studying in Legazpi City who would take orders from interested classmates and boardmates.

In return, Nono would give them some amount for their transportation to Legazpi.

His customers are mostly teenagers who like his creations.

"I don't stick to a single style since some people would come and ask for new designs, so I usually think them up during my free time," he says.

He got a bigger income during an alumni homecoming in 2001 in the Gallanosa National High School, where most of his batchmates' footwear was his design.

After the occasion, a businesswoman from Cavite took orders from him amounting to P11,000.

"What I made then were those jocular styles but were beautiful to look at," he recalled.

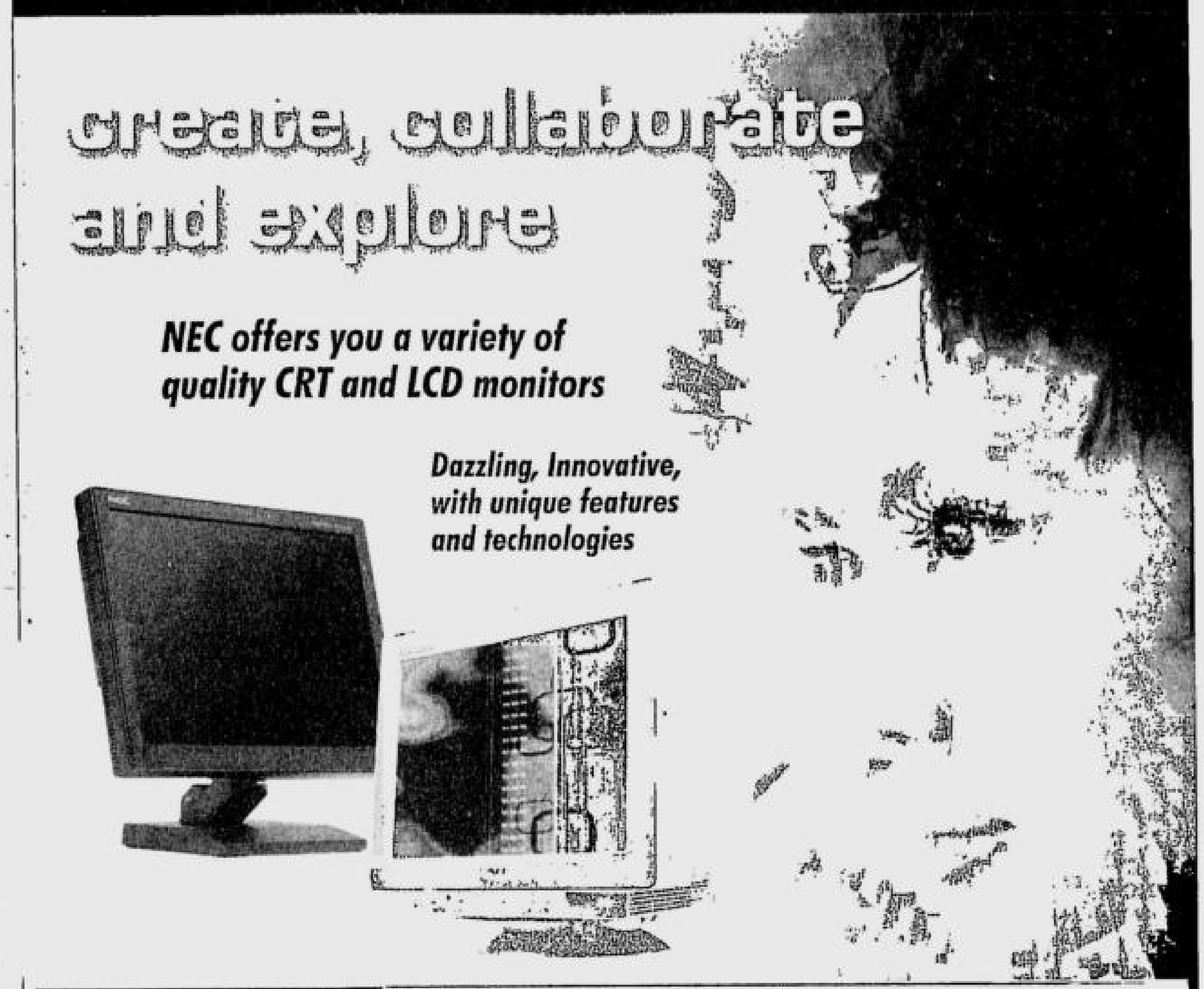
After a week, he made single and double-top sandals for the family of a cyclist friend in Bacon and later got an order worth P9,000.

By then, the business really took off and he started to buy materials—straps, spikes, locks and rubbers—in Manila for less costs.

Other makers would later buy materials from him, he says.

But as in other businesses, competition soon cropped up and his market in Irosin weakened, aggravated by

SANDAL-MAKER/ B14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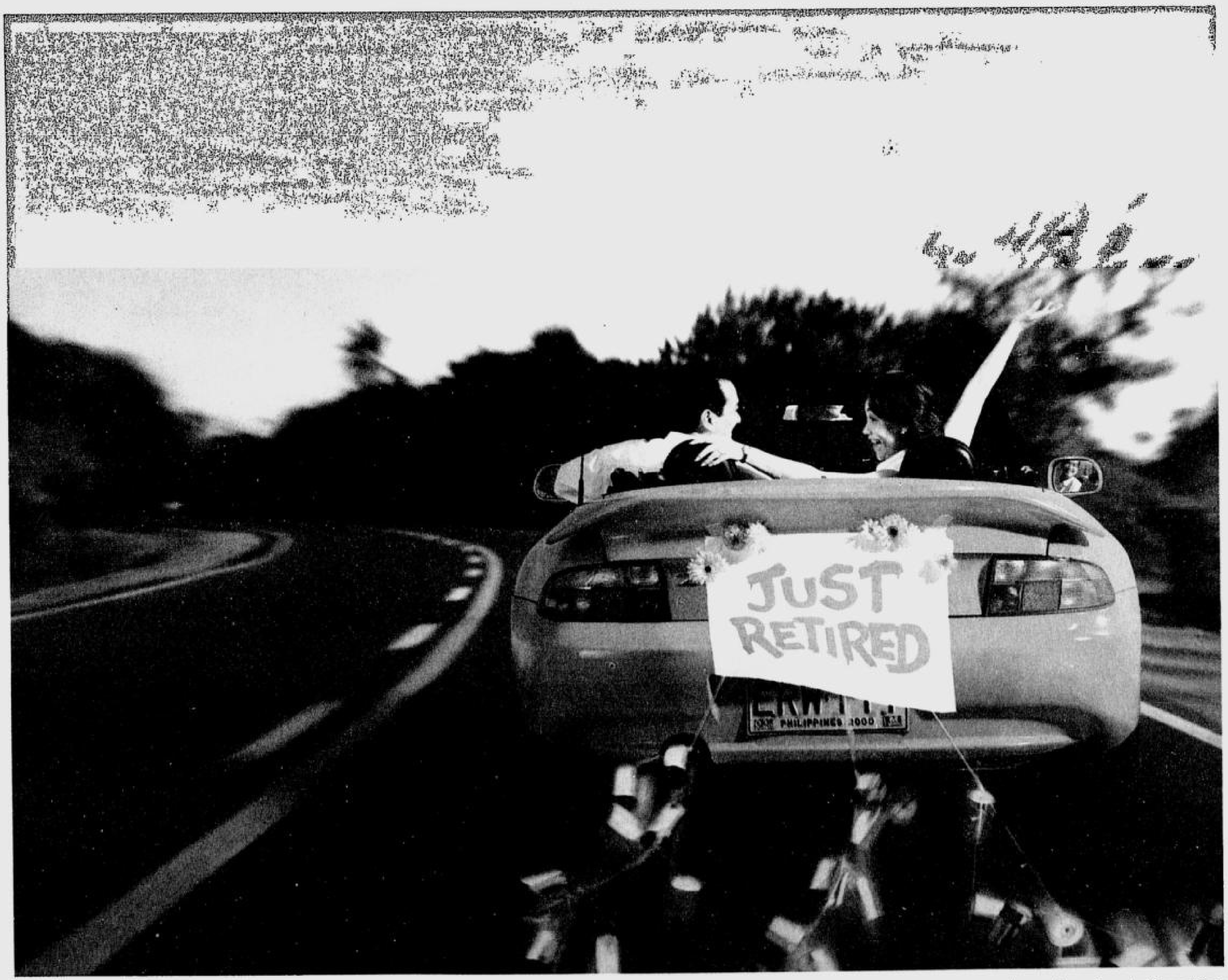
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HUNKS TOUCH 0920-5182552

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MALE 16 PALANAN 7320659

Manny 09166167768 Health

Massage Training VCDs Learn how 2 massage P250 each 4147650 / 09197959939

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VIP-M/F-24H-SVC 472-7647 Romy

REFLEXOLOGY

Blue Palm
713-6553

Edward 7289285 09195367404

FEELS GOOD 4127758

H-H-MS MALE 7314018

JOJO HHMS M/F 0920-8635511

RFLX 09192395660/8891997

RICA REFLEX 09166657273

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Wizard Massage 4213197/4227303

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Good-Maid-Yaya-Cook 853-3504

Bestmaids 4111593/7111602

EXCELLENT MAIDS 8330946-47

Good Maid Yaya Driver 4379496

Good Maid Yaya Boy 4214652

Help Agency 532-1947 • 532-6376

IDEAL MAID YAYA 7427198

IVYLANA MAIDS / YAYA 9268984/4331431/2590869

MAIDS 2000 4266788

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HOUSEHOLD JOBS

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L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

•CHEAP LBAHAY 9260424•

CLOSED ALUM VAN 824-0568

LBAHAY 7113540

LIPAT BAHAY 7312409

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HOUSE & LOT

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BF EXEC VILL 3M 2855129

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0917-4204351, 0919-8571632

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St. Ignatius Vill,cor lot 400m² 6br4tb 14M 09192221766

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

MANILA

Republic of the Philippines
HOME GUARANTY CORPORATION
Jade Bldg., Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City

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	BLK NO.	LOT NO.	LOT AREA
1	2	6	5,000.00
2	2	7	5,000.00
3	4	10	10,000.00
4	6	30	267.80
5	16	2	2,455.40
6	16	3	2,455.40
7	17	4	3,319.70
8	18	8	419.48
9	18	9	419.48
10	18	10	419.48
11	19	10	373.37
12	19	13	373.37
13	19	14	373.37

For details, pls. call tel. #897-3310 or 897-3488.

(PDI–June 21, 22 & 23, 2003)

COMML/RESDL

VARIED AREAS

REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES FOR SALE

Location	Area (sgm)	Price
National Highway, Calamba, Laguna	227,562	P 3,000/sqm
Brgy. Ulango, Calamba, Laguna	659,872	P 500/sqm
Brgy. Laurel, Tanauan, Batangas	1,985,523	P 350/sqm
Brgy. Sabang, Morong, Bataan	1,592,007	P 300/sqm
Acharon Blvd., General Santos City	17,996	P17,000/sqm
Acharon Blvd., General Santos City	2,584	P17,000/sqm
Acharon Blvd., General Santos City	5,065	P17,000/sqm
Acharon Blvd., General Santos City	6,465	P17,000/sqm
Acharon Blvd., General Santos City	240	P15,000/sqm
Acharon Blvd., General Santos City	210	P15,000/sqm
Acharon Blvd., General Santos City	233	P15,000/sqm
Acharon Blvd., General Santos City	728	P15,000/sqm
Acharon Blvd., General Santos City	300	P15,000/sqm
Acharon Blvd., General Santos City	202	P15,000/sqm
Acharon Blvd., General Santos City	168	P15,000/sqm
Acharon Blvd., General Santos City	210	P15,000/sqm
McArthur Highway, Calumpit, Bulacan	2,016	P 4,000/sqm
McArthur Highway, Calumpit, Bulacan	1,803	P 4,000/sqm
McArthur Highway, Calumpit, Bulacan	1,871	P 4,000/sqm
McArthur Highway, Calumpit, Bulacan	1,800	P 4,000/sqm
McArthur Highway, Calumpit, Bulacan	1,958	P 4,000/sqm
Sta. Rosa, Nueva Ecija	132,189	P 400/sqm
Nuestra Sra del Paz Subd., Antipolo	347	P 3,500/sqm
Sumulong Highway, Antipolo	25,487	P 3,800/sqm

All prices quoted are negotiable. Interested parties may contact **MS. LIZA HIZON** or **MR. DARWIN MANZANO** at telephone numbers **912-4718** or **912-4723**.

(PDI - June 15 & 22, 2003)

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HOUSE & LOT

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LOT

PROVINCIAL

LOT

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HOUSE & LOT

RIZAL

Greenland San Mateo owner leaving fa200 2cg sfurn vnice 2.7M: 297-4940 / 0917-8485621

VISTA VERDE la397 fa230 5.6M 09178378368•6471960

OTHER AREAS

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HOUSE & LOT

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BULACAN

LA-884 Plaridel 820-0708

LAGUNA

Binan 3T/mo 9390299

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HOUSE & LOT

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House & Lot
- LA 720sqm FA 600sqm
- 6 Bedrooms - 7 T&B
- Swimming pool
- 3 levels with 6 car garage
- Along Tamarind St.
- Terms OK

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Tagaytay
House & Lot
- LA 160 sqm FA 120 sqm
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- Walking distance from Tagaytay Rotonda
- Only P2M (Rush)
- Ready for Occupancy

Lot Only
- Min. Area: 171 sqm
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Barangay Cabuco
20,007 sqm
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- Clean Title
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QUEZON CITY

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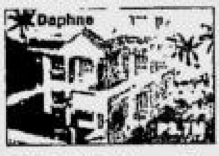

3BR, 2T&B, 144 sqm FA, 220 sqm LA w/ Roofdeck, Balcony Carport
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REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

LAS PINAS

ALABANG

CONDO/TWNHSE

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TOWNHOMES
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P1.2M to P1.5M
EASY PAYMENT SCHEMES
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All units fully furnished with toilet kitchen sink & acoustic ceiling with lights
Unit areas starts at 38m² or P1.5M
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Star Plaza Studio 35sqm 0917-4303478 • 437-9371

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HOUSE & LOT

LAS PINAS

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SINGLE DETACHED & DUPLEX UNITS AVAILABLE
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RESERVATION P 20T
DISCOUNTS AS HIGH AS 30%
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2 STRY, Single Detached
3BR 2TB 1CG
LA-120SQM; FA-110SQM

SUNRISE
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50m² up nr Quezon City
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Antipolo City
Two-storey Town house

PLACE
Brookside Hills,
Cainta, Rizal
Hse & Lot, 2 sty Twnhse
2BR, 2TB with carport

P1,150 T - up
E.A. CAISIP REALTY

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

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MANILA

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NR LA SALLE TAFT
BnewTwnhse/3stry/3br/3tb/grge P3.295M 8903461 loc 34

Nr UST 3.5M 6453731

Nr UST P3.6M 4BR 645-3731

PARANAQUE

3.8M neg. la68.5m² fa120m² 3BR 3TB w/grge 1 maids quarter 09202468096-Jimmy

3BR 3TB 2Grge 1 Maid Rm 2.5M Neg.6601254 09189177393

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ORTIGAS P6M FA95m²up 72 32mos 2pay INTEREST FREE! (02) 922-1214/0919-4053902

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CONDO/TWNHSE

PASIG

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QUEZON CITY

2BR CUBAO 1.2M 9120679

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Eastwood City Condos 1-3Brs Studio Call 0917-5218338

Fernandina 88 100sqm 4.8M Neg 3br 2tb 0916-7069277

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Totoy - 936-9089
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Highlands • 0917-2767193

LOT

MAKATI

318 sqm F. Zobel St. San Miguel Vill. Makati 8.8M Nonl 0918-9015311

PASIG

SOUTHWOODS RENE 6283840

QUEZON CITY

1Ha RUSH 09194628295 BF QC 224sqm 9316390

CORINTHIAN 600M² 4121825

Cubao 1200m² 18T/m² Neg 6453731

GRNMDOWS 600/900m² 4121825

Gud 4 shop & hse Comwelth 12T/m² neg 106m² 9522109

NEW MLA 200m² 4121825

St Ignatius 600m² 41201825

RIZAL

1Has Subdivided Nice 6453731

Angono,Aurora Subd 240m²@ P1,600 6582410/09198127417

EASTGAE TAYTAY, RIZAL 240sqm Corner P888,000.00 776-8201-03 Rose

Mission Hills 303sqm 0917-4303478 • 437-9371

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- SFDM 3br 373-0977
- 689 Baguio Corner Lot 725-0041 0917-5302970
- 1H Bulacan 725-0041
- Ortigas 3br UnF 25T-30T Semi-Furn also Avble 412-1825
- VV1 Off/Res 64sqm Studio Semi-Furn 412-1825 0917-7914366
- Ortigas 2br Unf-20T up FF 30T up 412-1825 0917-7914366

• N. Mla•
w/7 Pkng w/Garden

• PASIG •
Gud Loc No Flood Sale / Rent Various 915-5177

- VV2 662m² P18.5M
- Kawilihan Duplex TH P4.8-P5.5M
- Cubao 261m² Corner Lot 671-4421 • 0917-5279121
- Lipa 10.9 Hectares Near Malarayat 0917-3955738
- BrentVille TH 9M FF 0920-8007689
- •Vista Real Classica H&L LA315 P7.5M 0920-8007689
- Taipan Place FF FA164 P8M 0920-8007689
- A. Rivera LA180 P5.5M VL Nr Bambang 0920-8007689
- PSG 1600m² Indt'l Lot Cheap! 642-7246 0917-8438111 Cora
- N. Mla Twnhse 7.5M Neg
- Legazpi Mkti 250m² Comm'l P13M neg. Call 724-2605
- U Need Mandaluyong Condo / Thses 534-6610 Jojo

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★ AYALA HTS ★
425 500 600 725 1100@ 18T
Also w/ Hse ; 18M 20M 38M

★ LYLA G. VILLAS ★
1000-2000 Nr Gate Phs-1
Also w/Hse 18M 20M 28M
RP Duterte
912-0943 0917-8990943

• LOTS / SALE•
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- Acropolis cor 514m² P38 T/m²
- New Manila Fr 250-4,000m² P14.5T/m² Up
- Nr. NAIA Rd. & Roxas Blvd 1,800m² P25T/m²
- Corinthian Gardens, Various

HOUSE & LOT / SALE

- Sct. Torillo Nr. Timog LA 233 FA 385 3br P9M
- New Mla, Various
- Corinthian Grdns, Various

TOWNHOUSES / SALE
Scout, New Manila, San Juan, Pasig P5-P10M

• CONDO / SALE OR RENT

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- Rufino Towers / Off Ayala Cor. Herrera 212m² P9M
- Pacific Plaza, Fort Boni (Resd'l) 3br P24M 724-0394 700-1393 • 0917-8387820
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- SFDM QC 450m² Res/Whse 7.2M
- Sta Mesa Hts Cor Lot 257m²
- Edsa Nr Sct Borromeo 3,000/m² Canumay Valenzuela 1,020m² 6,500/m² Good For Whse Fact. Call 372-6398

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LOT

OTHER AREAS

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OTHER PROVINCIAL

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SO PEAK SN PEDRO 3500/sqm 7227240 0919-5915327

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PROVINCIAL

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BUSINESS SPACE

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REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

BUSINESS SPACE

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810.3556 0916.6192933 LEO

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For Sale First Class Fishpond San Fabian Boundary Dagupan City 2.6HA Tel (075)5132276

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PLARIDEL,BULACAN 1501m² P1M BENG 9314466 /9124573

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•ZAMBALES LOT•
Mango Farm 0919-2221766

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COMMERCIAL

QUEZON CITY

NR. ATENEO
Xavierville cor B. Gonzales brand new comm'l resd'l
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COMMERCIAL/ RESIDENTIAL

QUEZON CITY

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HOUSE

ALABANG

AYALA ALABANG 2STY POOL ALABANG HILLS 2STY POOL T8712461 0917-7310820

MAKATI

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MANDALUYONG

House & Lot Ideal for School / Office / Residence Call 532-3291 or 533-9225

PARANAQUE

BF Phse3 Kualalumpur 2BR2TB w/ Maids Qtr 15T 09175399611

PASIG

Greenland Pasig 4BR 2TB Up&Dn 25T Monet 286-4664

QUEZON CITY

'2Sty 4BR w/garage nr cor. Santol 7147867 / 09175405480

Proj4 3BR 2TB w/ garage Call Malou 4335777

PROJ.8 Toro Hills 4BR newly paint spacious grge 9287172

RIZAL

Palmera II Ort. Ext. 635-9713

BAGUIO

2BR P1500/DY FF 9316443

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

2BRM ACRS MKT SPORT SEMI-FURNISH 5473471/73

RITZ TOWER
11th Flr Ayala 180m² Newly renovated semifurn 7402451 7402527 • 7401466 Lotlot Call Mon-Fri ofc hrs only

SALCEDO PARK
36th Floor Brand new 3BR 2car parking 7402451 7402527•7401466 Lotlot Call Mon-Fri ofc hrs only

MANILA

MLA ASTRAL P FAURA COR TAFT FOR RENT 2BR SEMI FURN 6459611/09177650277

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

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Legaspi Towers 100. Very near Greenbelt. 76m², 1-BR. Tastefully furnished. Very spacious, bright, with excellent ventilation. With parking space and swimming pool. Call Janet at 815-9861.

MANDALUYONG

1BR PARAGON FF 9316443

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PARANAQUE

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Twnhse MOONWALK P'que 4BR/3TB w/ tel;3aircons,attic rm., grge, H2O tank P18T/mo 842-8143;0917-8436675

SAN JUAN

Near Wilson 4br 3tb w/Grg 12T@mo. 0916-7049828

One Beverly Place 184m²
Greenhills 3BR, 3TB, 1Car
SALE/RENT • 758-0058

Rush Sale L. Baguio Cond. San Juan MM N-Renovated 2br 2tb md quater Util. rm parking P2.5M Call 24-1373

APARTMENT

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#32 Bulalakaw back mun hall 5344109 • 6585656

Room 4 Ladies 0920-5004655

PASAY

2BR Cuenca 8315026/5500254

PASIG

New 3BR 2TB Grg 6363707

QUEZON CITY

2BR w/garage
Newly Painted
nr cor Santol nr PCSO/QI
7147867 / 09175405480

Cubao P3.5 Std Lady 9124428

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ROOM & BOARD

3.5T Ldy Prof MKT T8833610

Cubao Studio Type 5,800T Good Location 7275776

FEMALE w/AC 7898660 Chona

Kamias 3.5T Nice New 4267157

N. Garcia (Reposo) Mkt Female only 838-9932

PASIG NR. TEKTITE Tel. 6874005

BEDSPACE

LADIES P2000 T8705534

Lady nr UP SSS LTO 9908931

BUSINESS RENTAL

BALIUAG BUL. STRIPMALL Natl Hiway 18sqm-2300sqm 8671083 / 84 044-6415688

MAKATI nr BUENDIA
Plamo 129/148/185m² 1st class 8903461 loc 34 or 19 ofc hrs

Office nr Camp Aguinaldo Llanar Bldg B. Serrano/10th 9216741•9216738•9113610

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2% W/O TAKING CAR 3677523/24

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

BUILDING FOR LEASE

Quiapo Comml/Res 200+ sqm 828 R. Hidalgo 8177374

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

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OFFICE SPACES FOR RENT-STRATEGICALLY LOCATED ON AYALA AVENUE COR MAKATI AVENUE. AREA: 95/70/260 sqm; P300/sqm. NEG. CONTACT ELMA TEL#: 817-1194 OR 810-8074

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

COMMERCIAL

65 m² Pque 2 Sty New T 8833610

LOT FOR SALE/RENT

SCIENCE PARK-RUSH
LOT FOR SALE/LEASE
-10,962 sqm, Cab. Laguna
-B2 L1 Phase 3/Non-PEZA

METRO SOUTH SUBD.
RUSH-LOT FOR SALE
-172 sqm, residential lot
-Gen. Trias, Cavite
Tel#899-3456 to 59

PARANAQUE

5 Units 2-Sty Twnhse on 690m² cpmd in United P'QUE II near C-5/Makati 150-200m²/ unit strong H2O Tel# 8317177 / 8322046

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REALTORS/SEMINAR

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BMW 316i Model. July 99 Silver Manual 40Tkm Call Juliet 8394576 / 0917-7360194

FORD

FORD F150 Model Nov 99 Midnight Blue Matic 3200 Km Comprehensive Insurance Call Juliet 8394576 / 0917-7360194

HONDA

98 ACCORD 2.3A/T P570T Neg 42TKms/1stOwn/A-1Condition Ric 841-5470/0917-8398885

MERCEDES

97 Jaguar XJ6 721-1074/82

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RUSH! 99 REVO SR AUTOMATIC P430T 564-6593 589-7041

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Land Cruiser Surf Pajero Delica MU Safari Terrano Trooper Space gear Serena Vanette Hi-Lite Ace Elf Suzuki Canter with Warranty Finance Trade-in negotiable 9120647 09178342020

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115 MIND AV QC 9201794

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CAR VANS 410-0495

L300 T7411356

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1.5% Fast Car Loan 3677523/24

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6560140

1HR FastCarLoan 7125202

2% w/o Taking Car 7221021

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

2% w/o Taking Car 6567685

2% w/oTaking Car 3732081-82

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490

2% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

BILLIARDS

22T New Compl SR Impld 7767507

Sale/Rental/Service 802-0566

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Owner Leaving; Chickshens Stag Cock 81-K 1st Kamuning

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

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PACKAGE DEAL (2 VOLVOS) FOR P1.5M
1995 VOLVO 850 GLT A/T MIDNIGHT BLUE, ORIGINAL PAINT, WITH CD CHANGER, 2.5 LITER ENGINE, ALL POWER, IN GOOD CONDITION AND WELL MAINTAINED.

1996 VOLVO 960 A/T MIDNIGHT BLUE, ORIGINAL PAINT, ALL POWER, WITH CD CHANGER, 3.0 LITER ENGINE, IN GOOD CONDITION AND WELL MAINTAINED.

PLEASE CALL AT 892-2916 DURING OFFICE HOURS FROM 9:00 AM TO 6:00 PM (MONDAYS THRU FRIDAYS).

VOLVO
1995 VOLVO 850 GLT ESTATE
Engine displacement: 2.5 liter, 5 cylinder, 20 valves, 170 bhp, 4-speed A/T, Color: Tropic Green. P900T
1996 VOLVO 850 GLE SEDAN
Engine displacement: 2.5 liter, 5 cylinder, 10 valves, 144 bhp, 4-speed A/T, Color: Polar White. P600T
1997 VOLVO 960 ESTATE
Engine displacement: 3.0 liter, 6 cylinder, 24 valves, 204 bhp, 4-speed A/T, color: Olive Green. P800T
1998 VOLVO S70 GLE SEDAN
Engine displacement: 2.5 liter, 5 cylinder, 10 valves, 144 bhp, 4-speed A/T, Color: Tropic Green P900 T
2002 VOLVO S60 SEDAN
Engine displacement. 2.0 liter, 5 cylinder, 20 valves, 180 bhp, 5-speed Adaptive A/T, Color: Cosmic Blue P1.9M
2002 VOLVO XC70 ESTATE
Engine displacement 2.4 liter, 5 cylinder, 20 valves 200 bhp, 5-speed Geartronic Adaptive Transmission, Color: Ash Gold, P2.4M
Call Jax, Max, or Braggy
7572947
0917-8469343
0917;8412112
0916-5485454,
Office Hrs. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

INSURANCE

2TPG 5yr col plan 4 9yr old 95K@ 0919-6349896

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Piano good as new 9281980

YAMAHA GRAND & UPRIGHT ELITE PIANO CENTER Almost New:TERMS-7213124

OTHER EQUIPMENT

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PETS

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Dog Trainer 09192050952

DOG TRAINER 4528681

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TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

VOLVO

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

PETS

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9th AKU & 304th PCCI
ALL-BREEDS DOGSHOWS
RIVERBANKS CENTER
MARIKINA CITY
JULY 12-13, 2003
UNDER INT'L JUDGES
TOSHIKAZU URYU
(Japan)
GWEN JOHNSTON
(New Zealand)
As per AO # 32 S2000 of the Department of Agriculture Exhibitors are required to bring the updated vaccination records of their dogs duly certified by a Veterinarian with an updated PRC license and PTR.

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5633742 0917-8473744

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MASSEUR W/OUT EXP. 8817681

Technician for Water 4 Water Refilling Station 7361605

FEMALE

2 DERMA FOREIGN EMPLYER GOOD SALARY 7133259/7150325

Acctg Clerk,w/exp in BIR/SSS filing to work in home ofc @Sucat,Pque P8T/mo T842-8143;0917-8436675

Dentists/Nurses 843-2596

PR WRITER w/exp.coll grad to work full time in home ofc @Sucat,Pque, comp.literate 8428143;09178436575

MALE/FEMALE

DIRECT HIRE MKTG STAFF 18-45 YO 2527448 MR. JACOB

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EASY CAR LOAN
- without taking car at 1% int.
- fast processing / easy terms
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Delos Santos Med Center
Department of Surgery
PCS accredited
is looking for a
SURGICAL RESIDENT
Dr. Elesterio or surgical res
7230041 loc 159

DIRECT HIRE MKTG PERSONNEL 18-45 COLL GRAD/LEVEL W/ W/O EXP 4370454 BRANDY

FREE CAREGIVER TRAINING 5280730 589-9958

JOB FAIR 09167195326 WENDY

MANICURISTA needed ASAP call Elll 6830106

Master Planner/Civil Engr (M) 3-5yrs exp not more than 35yo Payroll/Acctng Clerk (F) single w/exp willing to be assign in provnce 7234623-25

Mktg Person'l 09192535623 Glenda

Ofc/ Mktg Ofcr. Coll Grad/Level 18-55 yrs. Initiative Diligent P 30T above Rm. 514 Downtown Ctr. Bldg. Quintin Paredes , Binondo

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A fast growing Resto-Bar Chain is in need of the following personnel for its expansion program
- Store Manager/Supervisor
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- Cook & Cashier
- Office Staff & Accountants

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WANTED: ACCOUNTING STAFF
PLS CALL 852-6195
Look for Perla

Wanted FIELD RESEARCHER Please Call 438-1881

Wanted Med. Tech. with Licence, Experience not needed • Call 983-4047

X-RAY TECHNICIAN ASAP RSV Clinic 924-9935

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is given that the heirs of AUGUSTO M. JOAQUIN executed a deed of extrajudicial settlement of estate with waiver of rights duly acknowledged before notary public Romualdo D. Celestra in Paranaque City Phils. as Doc 86, Page18, Book XII, Series of 2003.
(PDI-June 15, 22, 29, 2003)

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given of the loss of Petron Corp. Stock Cert. # 0438635 1600share in the name of Wilfredo Peter Mariano R. Desquitado. Shld. no one contest on or bef. 6/29 /03 new cert. will be issued (PDI-June 15, 22, 29, 2003)

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INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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Inkko Instant Rubber Stamp Machine Big Profit Easy to Operate Universal Also Key Duplicator CALL: 851-2827 472-0675

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MY DREAM JCB
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LPG RETAIL & DELIVERY Outlet franchise we'll provide everything even customers P50T-100T monthly net income Call 438-0248

RTW Consign 09167940002

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SPA Prods Gd Qlty 7221627

URGENT! 10 PART-TIME 651-0616 / 0917-8106183

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Work from Home 09178114249

FRANCHISING

Water Refilling Equipment open 4 Franchise 7361605

RIGHTS FOR SALE

LEASEHOLD RIGHTS IMPTS Katipunan Ave (075)5132276

BUSINESS FOR SALE

KAASAN(Japanese Restaurant) Little Tokyo 2277 Chino Roces Ave. Makati City (beside Makati Square) Newly Renovated-1.35M Call ASAP @ (02)852-6787

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Sell Defense Prods: Stun Guns Pepper Spray Etc 0918-9293778

Rush Sale
owner leaving canteen rights and equipment adjacent NCBA Taytay
Tel: 286-2706
Cell: 0919-2244615
Call: Marivic

FOR SALE
FULL SERVICE FASTFOOD RESTAURANT
INTERNATIONAL FRANCHISE FULLY OPERATIONAL
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LOCATION WITH ESTABLISHED CLIENTELE
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Bangkal, Makati City
Tel. Nos.: 8892879/7515298/8894937 to 38
Fax 8446883

POEA LICENSE 164-LB-040102-R

NEEDS

FOR ITS PRINCIPAL IN
Abu Dhabi, UAE
PROTECH

a. **PAINTING SUPERVISOR** – Male, Graduate of any Engineering course, 30-45 years old, 10-15 years experience in similar positions. Articulate and have a good command of spoken and written English. Responsible for keeping the teams working to the programme, materials, reporting to the main contractor and measurement of work.

b. **PAINTING FOREMAN / TEAM LEADER** – Male, Graduate of any Engineering course, 25-35 years old, 5-10 years experience in similar positions. Must be very familiar with using Graco spray equipment.

c. **PAINTERS** – Male, College level/graduate, 23-35 years old, 3-5 years experience in similar positions. Must be very familiar with filling, rubbing down and preparation of woodwork, plaster and concrete, brush and roller painting.

FOR INTERESTED APPLICANTS, Bring your 2 sets of resumé with pictures, Diploma/Transcript of Records, Certificate of Employment and copy of Passport, at the above address or e-mail your resumé to

concorde@compass.com.ph

OR YOU MAY APPLY AT OUR FOLLOWING PROVINCIAL BRANCHES:

DAVAO CITY – TEL. NO. 082-222-6475
DAGUPAN CITY – TEL. NO. 075-5156156
BACOLOD CITY – TEL. NO. 034-4333160
NUEVA VIZCAYA – TEL. NO. 078-8031732

No fees to be collected

MAG-INGAT SA MGA ILLEGAL RECRUITER
FOR MANPOWER POOLING ONLY

IMMEDIATE HIRING

Assistant EXECUTIVE SECRETARY (Code: A)

- Female, College Graduate, not more than 28 years old
- Proficient in Oral & Written communication skills
- can work under pressure & minimum supervision
- Fresh graduates are welcome

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT (Code: B)

- M/F not more than 35 years old
- College graduate (Industrial Engineering graduate preferred)
- at least 3 years production experience in Garments Factory

SEWING SUPERVISOR (Code: C)

- Female, at least High School Graduate
- Dynamic & self-motivated, not more than 40 years old
- Experienced sewer with knowledge in all high-speed sewing & special machines
- At least 3 years supervisory experience in Garments Industry

PATTERNMAKER (Code: D)

- M/F, at least High School Graduate, not more than 40 years old
- at least 3 years experience, can work under pressure & minimum supervision

SAMPLEMAKER (Code: E)

- F, at least High School Graduate, not more than 35 years old
- experienced sewer with knowledge in all high-speed sewing & special machines
- can work under pressure & minimum supervision

We offer Compensation commensurate with qualifications & performance.

For Codes A & B, pls email your Comprehensive Resumé at virtualinkphils@yahoo.com or fax it at 243-5296 or mail to HRD Department, PO Box 2624 Manila
For Codes C, D & E, please call at 244-6344 between 9AM & 11AM only

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SALON DE ESPOIR AND SPA
UNIT 101 AND 102 MNRI BLDG.
MINDANAO AVE., QUEZON CITY

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

BRANCH SUPERVISOR

Female, 21-26 years old w/ pleasing personality. College Graduate with Business Management degree; 2-3 years related experience; Marketing oriented with good oral/written communication skills.

SENIOR BEAUTICIAN

Female/male, 22-30 yrs. old, at least with related vocational background; w/ pleasing personality; 3-5 years experience and knows how to deal with class A clients.

MASSAGE THERAPIST

Female, 21-28 yrs. old w/ pleasing personality; 2-3 years related experience; at least High School graduate and with related vocational background.

Interested parties may apply in person with your resumé and 2x2 ID picture, from Monday-Friday, 1-6 p.m.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

SALES ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Hand carry/Mail resumé to:
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#114 Esteban St.
Legaspi Village, Makati City

Our Company is in need of

SALES EXECUTIVE (Male/Female)
OFFICE CLERK (Female)

If you are a college level, disciplined & hardworking, please call Marcie/Johnson at 366-5763

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Announces that it now has e-mail addresses for free drug counseling and information on drug abuse.

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ATTENTION!!!

DON BOSCO ACADEMY, TARLAC
BATCH '73

There will be a grand reunion on August 2, 2003.

For more information please contact
Mr. DEO LOPEZ @ 0917-8387657 or
Mr. RAUL R. IGLESIAS @ 924-5345

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Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corporation
Responding Through Responsible Gaming

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
ITB NO.: 02-11-2003

The Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) is inviting all interested bidders in its forthcoming public bidding for the project stated hereunder:

Name of Project	:	Janitorial Service - CF-Bacolod
Brief Project Description	:	One (1) year Janitorial Service Contract Total Floor Area: 6,579.64 square meters Required Personnel: 27 Janitors
Approved Budget	:	Three Million Pesos (P 3,000,000.00)
Source of Fund	:	Internally

Only contractors duly registered with PAGCOR shall be allowed to participate in the bidding. Unregistered contractors must register at the Suppliers Registration & Evaluation Division (SRED), Procurement & Property Department (PPD), 2nd Floor PAGCOR House, 1330 Roxas Blvd., Ermita Mla., Tel. No. 526-0573 or at the Branch Property Office, Casino Filipino-Bacolod, Telephone Numbers (034)-434-8901 to 11 locals 126 & 127.

The detailed project particulars and instructions to bidders are discussed in the **Bid Documents** available for issuance **from June 21, 2003 to July 9, 2003** at the BAC Secretariat Unit (BSU), PPD-Corporate Office or BBAC Secretariat, CF-Bacolod upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ***Five Hundred Pesos (Php 500.00).*** In order to secure the documents, interested bidders should primarily submit a **Letter of Intent** including the names of at least five (5) authorized representatives of the company that will handle the above-mentioned project to the BSU, PPD-Corporate Office or BBAC Secretariat, CF-Bacolod **not later than 5:00 p.m., July 8, 2003.**

Pre-Bid Conference		July 9, 2003 (4:00 p.m.)
Submission of Bids		July 24, 2003 (2:00 p.m.)
Opening of Bids	:	July 24, 2003 (2:00 p.m. onwards)

PAGCOR reserves the right to disqualify any prospective bidder if found that they have submitted falsified documents and/or information, and the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, to waive any defects or formalities found therein and to accept such bid or a part thereof as may be deemed most advantageous to PAGCOR, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

PAGCOR reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract if there is *prima facie* evidence of collusion between appropriate public officers or employees of the agency, or between the BAC and any of the bidders, or if the collusion is between or among the bidders themselves, or between a bidder and a third party, including any act which restricts, suppresses or nullifies or tends to restrict, suppress or nullify competition, or if the BAC is found to have failed to follow the prescribed bidding procedures, or for any justifiable and reasonable ground where the award of the contract will not redound to the benefit of the government (R.A. 9184, Sec. 41).

Please address all communications to the Branch Bids and Awards Committee, CF-Bacolod.

(Sgd.) MICHAEL J. BAILEY
Chairperson, BBAC CF-Bacolod

(PDI--June 22 & 29, 2003)

National Power Corporation

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

NPC-PSD 2003-004

The Bids and Awards Committee (BAC)-PSD of NPC invites interested bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for the following requirements:

Date of Bidding	:	July 11, 2003	-	10:00 a.m.
Pre-Bid Conference	:	July 07, 2003	-	2:00 p.m.
E-bidding	:	July 15, 2003	-	2:00 p.m.

SCHEDULE	ITEM/DESCRIPTION	PR NUMBER	ABC
A	Supply of Labor Services, Materials, Consumable, Supervision, Expertise and Provision of Tools/Eqpt. For Hauling and Transport of Fuel Oil From Sucat Thermal Power Plant (STPP) to Malaya Thermal Power Plant (MTPP)	FUE03-004	P18,874,803.00

Complete sets of Application form for Eligibility and Bid Documents may be obtained from the Procurement Services Division, Materials Management Dept. of NPC, Diliman, Quezon City upon payment of non-refundable fee of PHP 100.00 per schedule starting on June 23, 2003. Last day of issuance of bid documents on July 04, 2003.

Issuance of eligibility forms and bid documents mornings only, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Bidder is oblige to participate in e-bidding. Failure to do so will be a sufficient ground for disqualification.

Bids will be received at the assigned Bidding Room, PSD, MMD, NPC, Diliman, Quezon City on the date and time specified above after which Eligibility Requirements and Bid Proposals will be opened in the presence of attending bidders. Certificate of Registrations issued by former Genco Offices will be honored provided that the Certification is still valid.

Prospective Bidders shall signify conformance to bidding terms and conditions as required and shall ensure the same through proper submission/execution in accordance with the IRR of "Executive Order 40".

The Bidders shall furnish as part of his/her bid, a bid security in the amount equivalent to a percentage of the approved budget for the contract to be bid in the form of Cash Manager's/Cashier's Check, Irrevocable Letter of Credit - One Percent (1%), Bank Guarantee - One and a half percent (1.5%), Surety Bond - Two and a half percent (2.5%), penal and callable on demand issued by a Surety or Insurance Company accredited by the Office of the Insurance Commission.

NPC reserves the right to reject any or all bids at any time prior to award of contract, waive any defects therein, and accept the offer most advantageous to the Corporation, without thereby incurring any of the following: a) liability whatsoever to offset expenses or losses the bidder may incur in the preparation of the bids; and b) obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for the basis of the BAC's action.

CHAIRMAN
Bids and Awards Committee
PSD-NPC

(PDI - June 22 & 29, 2003)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The following persons are hereby notified of their overdue payments on their installments for the purchase of the following real estate properties, namely:

NAME	PROPERTY	PAYMENT(S) DUE
Dale Bandalan	Neopolitan, PVI B168 L56 TCT#37566	2,563,465.90
Adeliza Tibayan	Neopolitan, PVII B202 L1 TCT#37824	1,793,841.27
Zoilo Lapuz	Neopolitan, PI B132 L29 TCT#N-85434	2,335,464.85

The above-named-persons are hereby given a grace period of two (2) months from publication of this notice within which to pay the above mentioned sums to DBH Development Corporation, 6th Floor, Renaissance Tower D, Meralco Ave., Pasig City. Failure to pay the above amounts shall result in the cancellation of the Contracts to Sell by DBH Development Corporation.

(PDI-June 22, 2003)

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES
PUBLIC ESTATES AUTHORITY
7TH FLOOR LEGASPI TOWERS 200, PASEO DE ROXAS, CITY OF MAKATI, METRO MANILA
TELEPHONE NUMBERS 817-47-11 • 817-47-12 • 817-47-13
817-5017 • 817-5018 • 817-5014 • 813-1441/46
FAX (632) 815-2662 • 815-2660 • 817-3127
ZIP CODE 1226

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID
HEALTH CARE SERVICES FOR ALL QUALIFIED
OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE PUBLIC ESTATES AUTHORITY
AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

PEA is inviting health maintenance offices to submit pre-qualification documents for the bidding of the health care services for all qualified officers and employees of PEA and their dependents.

Interested parties may acquire pre-qualification forms from the Office of the Chairman of the BAC, 8th Floor, Legaspi Towers 200, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City starting 25 June 2003 upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P100.00.

The duly accomplished pre-qualification documents must be received on or before 5:00 p.m., 02 July 2003 at the Office of the Chairman of the BAC, 8th Floor, Legaspi Towers 200, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City.

The approved budget cost for the health care services is P1,880,000.00, chargeable against the PEA Personnel Services Benefits Fund. The contract for health care services shall commence on August 16, 2003 to August 15, 2004.

Schedule of Pre-bid conference shall be held on 14 July 2003 at 2:00 p.m. at the PEA Conference Room. Deadline of submission of bids will be on 24 July 2003 at 10:00 a.m. and the opening of bids will be at 2:00 p.m. of the same day.

The PEA reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any formality or technicality and to award to the bidder whose proposal is deemed most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) ARMINDA A. ALARAS
Chairman, BAC

Approved:
(Sgd.) TEODORICO C. TAGUINOD
General Manager-CEO

(PDI – June 22 & 29, 2003)

NO JOBS IN IRAQ YET

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OBITUARIES

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"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."
John 3:16

"For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven"
Eccl. 3:1

The time for

PEDRO RIVERA SANDOVAL

of U.P. Los Baños, to go back to the Heart of the Blessed Trinity, came on June 20, 2003 at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital.
He was 79 years old.

Please join us, his wife **Esperanza** and children, **Sr. Milagros, SSpS, Jesus Pedro** and **Roberto,** his brothers, **Angelito** and **Mario,** in-laws, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, in thanking the Triune God for his life well-lived in the service of God and people.

He lies in state at the St. Therese of the Child Jesus Parish, College, Laguna.

The Resurrection Mass will be on Tuesday, June 24, 2003 at 9:00 a.m. Interment follows.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the St. Therese of the Child Jesus Parish will be appreciated.

The family of the late

DR. RODOLFO JARA MESA

of La Paz, Iloilo City

wish to express their profound gratitude for all their relatives and friends, especially to the Photographic Society of Iloilo, University of Iloilo College of Nursing, Central Philippine Univesity (CPU) High School Class '54, University of Iloilo, Iloilo Medical Society and the Christian Family Movement of the Philippines, and all those who offered their prayers, attended the wake, offered Masses, and joined in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, thanking the LORD for **"Toto Ruding"**, whom He has called back home.

"Whoever serves Me must follow Me; and where I am, My servant also will be." John 12:26

In loving memory of the
First Death Anniversary of

REV. FR. ROBERT GONZALES TAYAO

Diocese of Balanga
Born : 27 January 1950
Ordained : 04 March 1978
Died : 22 June 2002

Pious readers are requested to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

DEATH NOTICES

GENERAL RAFAEL ILETO

Died June 19, 2003 at the age of 82.

Interment will be today, June 22, 2003, 9:00 a.m. at the Libingan ng mga Bayani, Fort Bonifacio, Makati City.

VILLAMOR L. DIZON

Died on June 19, 2003 at the age of 74.

Interment will be today, June 22, 2003 after the 3:00 p.m. Mass at the Holy Spirit Parish Church, Marisol Village, Angeles City.

Our Beloved

Florante Belarmino-Oliveros

of Silang, Cavite
Born on October 16, 1915,
passed away peacefully in the Grace of the Lord
on June 20, 2003 at the age of 87.

His loving children, **Ellen and Jun, Rene and Jo, Fred and Baby, Sendy, Cora and Gerry, Nilo and Nida;** His grandchildren, **Oliver J., Roel, Oliver O., Christine and Carlos, Derick and Annette, Jerome and Glenda, Dennis, Gabby, Cheryll and Wendel, Michelle, RJ, Maricar, Kicker, Randel,** and **Rachell;** His great grandchildren, **Claudia, Cody, Kenneth, Gerald, Patricia, Joshua, Kyle and Jed;** His siblings and in-laws, **Salud, Aurea** and **Horacio (Velazco),** and brother **Angel** and **Virginia (Centeno).**

Hold his memory dearly and cherish his life dedicated to God, family and colleagues.

His remains lie in state at his residence, 150 J. Rizal St., Silang, Cavite. Interment will be on June 25, 2003 (Wednesday) after the 2:00 p.m. Mass at the Himlayang Paraiso, Silang, Cavite.

We the parents, **Rey & Susan,** sister **Chu-Chu,** brothers **Ryan & Jun-jun,** and relatives of the late

VANESSA EVE "TINTIN" CUCIO-ANG

who joined her Creator on June 10, 2003 at the age of 18

wish to convey our sincerest gratitude & appreciates all those who offered Masses, prayers & flowers, visited & kept vigil, joined the burial rites and in one way or another condoled with us & showed love & concern in our time of bereavement.

Message of Thanks
We, the family of the late

GREGORIO "Yoyong" BARCELON

who passed away in the Grace of our Lord
on May 30, 2003

Wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and sincerest appreciation to all those who offered masses and prayers, sent flowers and messages of sympathy and who in countless ways, condoled with and comforted us in our hour of bereavement.

In Loving Memory

On the 7th Death Anniversary
of our Beloved
"Daddy"

7 years without you seem a
lifetime for us to bear
But our Love for you lasts a
lifetime for us to share.

FAUSTINO S. LAGBAO

February 15, 1922 - June 22, 1996

His loving wife, Fe; children, **Flory & Trygve, Fides & Chito, Freddie & Tina** and **Rico;** grandchildren, **Jhonjee, JC, Niko, Christine, Mikkel, Janie, Monica, Topoy, Markie** and **Sammy** request the readers and friends to offer a prayer for him.

Masses will be offered today at the following churches:

Santuario de San Jose
Greenhills, Mandaluyong .... 6:15 AM
Holy Trinity Parish
Balic-Balic, Sampaloc, Manila .... 6:15 AM
Lourdes Church
Quezon City .... 8:00 AM
Christ the King Parish
Greenmeadows, Quezon City .... 8:00 AM

"I am the Resurrection and the Life, he that believes in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."
(Jn 11:25)

BP. SIMEON VALERIO, SVD, DD

of Binmaley, Pangasinan

Passed away to join his Creator
on June 20, 2003 at the age of 85,
with 62 years of religious life.

His body lies at Villa Cristo Rey, Christ the King Seminary, 101 E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City.

The Funeral Mass will be held at the Christ the King Seminary Chapel, Quezon City on Tuesday, 24 June 2003 at 3:00 p.m.

Interment will follow.

LEONCIO O. LIMJUCO

of Princeton, New Jersey, USA
passed away last February 23, 2003
at the age of 90.

Mr. Limjuco was deputy commissioner of the Bureau of Public Highways in Manila, Philippines, before retiring in 1975.

He was a graduate, who eventually became a professor, of civil engineering at the Mapua Institute of Technology in Manila.

Mr. Limjuco received his master's degree from Oklahoma State University.

He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Laguna.

Surviving are his wife **Aurora**; daughters **Joephine Sarmiento, Guadalupe, Cecile Carlos, Benilda Alfonso** and **Corazon**; a sister **Marina Peralejo**; seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT MESSAGE OF THANKS DEATH ANNIVERSARY REQUIEMS FREE OBIT DESIGN

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243 A.B. Fernandez Ave., Dagupan City, Pangasinan
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COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City; Tels 231-0721; 231-3192
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext. cor. J. Abad Santos, Davao City; Tels (082) 227-1201; 227-1258
DAYAO FUNERAL HOME
#2 Bayani St., Galas, Quezon City;
Tels. 740-2683, 781-3705, 781-3688; 413-9400; 715-5594
DALLUAY MEMORIAL SERVICES
#42 Upper Kalaklan, Olongapo City
Tels. (047) 222-3605; (047) 811-1086, (047) 222-4512; (047) 224-2014
DON BOSCO CHAPELS
Pasay Road, Makati City, Tel 894-5932 to 34
DULCE MEMORIAL SERVICES
Jose Abad Santos Ave. cor. Dinalupihan St., Manuguit, Manila
Tels. 712-5102, 741-5125; 741-5133; Fax No. 711-3064
FLORESCO FUNERAL HOME
219 Gen. Luna St., Concepcion, Malabon, Metro Manila;
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FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
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865 J.P. Rizal St., Poblacion, Makati City; Tels. 890-3556; 899-8191
FUNERARIA TUASON
Poblacion, San Miguel, Bulacan 3011;
Tels. (044) 764-0281; 678-0266; (0917) 895-0603
FUNERARIA SAMSON
145 Bayan Luma, Imus, Cavite; Tels. (046) 471-3375; 471-2675
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HERITAGE PARK
Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila
Tels. (DL) 845-2341 to 42; (TL) 845-2334 to 38 loc. 110/112
HOLY GARDENS MEMORIAL PARK
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Tels 651-1711; 651-0737
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Sucat, Parañaque City; Tels. 825-1296, 825-1291
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Manila #23 Palo St., Project 2, Quezon City; Tel. 434-3258
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LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
143 G. Araneta Ave. cor. Kaliraya St., Quezon City;
Tels. 749-3806 to 11; 712-3001; 743-6502 or 05
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SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH
East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City; Telefax 724-4139, 725-2044
ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH
Magallanes Village, Makati City, Tels 852-8228, 852-7284
ST. MARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL
16-15 G. Tuazon cor. Loreto St., Sampaloc, Manila, Tels 749-3679; 781-1772
ST. PETER FUNERAL HOMES
296 Quezon Ave., Quezon City, Tels 372-5084, 410-9286/87
VERONICA MEMORIAL HOMES
Official NBI Morgue 517-A Arnaiz St., Pasay City;
Tels 831-3797, 844-7846, 843-1801, 845-4836
WELINGTON FUNERAL SERVICES
1511 Gen Luna [illegible], Paco, Manila, Tels [illegible] 8846, 522-9438; 400-5394

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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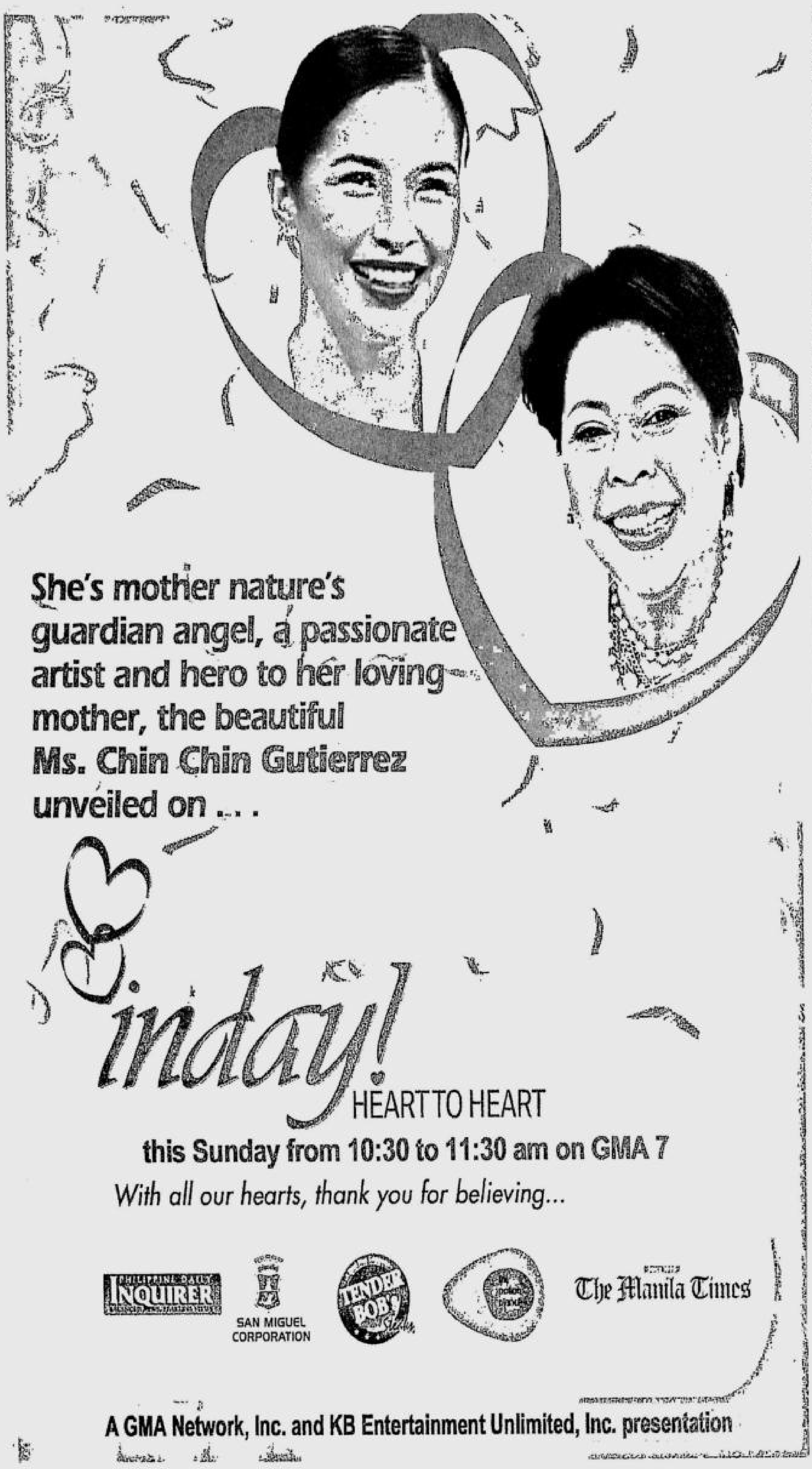
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this Sunday from 10:30 to 11:30 am on GMA 7
With all our hearts, thank you for believing...
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Nippon Life Philippines

INVITATION TO BID

Nippon Life Philippines through its Bidding Committee invites interested and qualified bidders for the disposal of two (2) company vehicles on an ***as is where is condition***. The vehicles subject for disposal are as follows:

1 unit 2000 Honda Civic 1.6 Vti MT
1 unit 2000 Honda Civic 1.5 Lxi MT

The vehicles will be available for inspection from June 23 to 27, 2003 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., please call Ms. Barby Munoz at telephone no. 753-21-51 loc. 201 for details. The Terms of Reference for the Disposal of the Company Vehicles shall be available at the Corporate Affairs Office.

All Bids must be submitted on or before **June 27, 2003** at 3:00 p.m. to the Bidding Committee, Nippon Life Philippines, Training Room No. 1, 21st floor, Tower 2, RCBC Plaza, Ayala Avenue, Makati City. The opening of bids will immediately follow in the presence of all the bidders or authorized respresentative.

Nippon Life Philippines reserves the right to reject any bid or all bids without offering any reason, to waive and required formality therein and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the company. The company further assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify the bidder/s for any expense or loss that he/they may have incurred in the preparation of the bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **JEM M. CHENG**
Assistant Vice President
Corporate Affairs Division

(PDI--June 22, 2003)

PRIVATIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE INVITATION TO SUBMIT BIDS

Offered for public bidding is the PMO-held leasehold rights (effective until December 5, 2005) over a 41,227 sq.m. land located at Barangay San Manuel (formerly Barangay Canigaran), Puerto Princesa City, Palawan covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-6560 registered under the name of Veronica M. Rafols.

	Indicative Price
PMO's leasehold rights over a 41,227 sq.m. land located at Bgy. San Manuel, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan	**P1,001,000.00**

Bids will be received, opened and tabulated in the presence of the bidders on **July 16, 2003 at 3:00 p.m.** at the Conference Room, 6th Floor, PMO, 104 Gamboa Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City.

Interested parties may request for the duly authenticated copies of the **Asset Specific Bidding Rules (ASBR), Asset Specific Bidding Form (ASBF)**, together with the **Asset Specific Catalogue (ASC)** for a nominal fee of P300.00 from the PMO Marketing Office, 104 Gamboa Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City.

In the event that the public bidding becomes a failure, offers may be received on a "first-come, first-serve" basis.

For more information, please call Ms. Nadine M. Atilano at 817-8762/ 817-6331.

Privatization and Management Office
104 Gamboa St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
Fax (632) 818-0906 / 818-4591

PETRON
Needs
SERVICE STATION DEALERS
for

Locations	Required Cash Capital	Deadline for Submission of Application
1. Old Highway, Binan, Laguna	P4.0M	07/12/03
2. Pagsanjan, Laguna	P3.0M	07/12/03
3. Bgy. Maahas, Los Banos, Laguna	P4.0M	07/12/03
4. Kamias/Kalayaan, Q.C.	P4.0M	07/30/03
5. F.B. Harrison/San Juan, Pasay	P4.0M	07/07/03
4. Tunasan, Muntinlupa	P5.0M	07/30/03

Note: Above capital requirement needed for actual station operation; No up-front money is given to Petron.

Only applicants who can meet the following "MUST" requirements need apply:
a. Must be able to put up required capitalization;
b. Must be able to operate and run the station on full time basis;
c. Must not be an existing dealer of Petron or of any other oil company.

Preference shall be given to applicants residing near the station being applied for. Previous applicants need not apply.

Please secure your application forms from Luzon Retail, Petron Corporation Jesus St., Pandacan, Manila c/o Ms. Sharon Sayson at tel. 563-8521 Loc. 282 Submit application forms not later than the deadline specified for each location.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Please be informed that **Ms. Elma Esteves**, whose picture appears above, with last known address at 2498 M. delos Reyes St., For Village I, Valenzuela City, is wanted for QUALIFIED THEFT and has a standing warrant of arrest issued by the Regional Trial Court of Manila Branch 50 in connection with Criminal Case No. 02-204027.

A substantial amount will be given to anyone who shall provide Mr. Rolly P. Estrella at Tel. Nos. 736-2426 or 736-2403 the present whereabouts of Elma Esteves who was also issued a Hold Departure Order.

(PDI – June 22, 2003)

AUCTION

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FORKLIFT - (4) YALE Electric Forklifts
POWER TOOLS - Rotary Impact Drills, Cordless Drills; Angle Grinders; Cordless Grass Strimmers, High Pressure Washers, etc.
MOTORS /PUMPS - A Large Qty of Electric Motors to 20HP (Unused); A Large Qty of Pumps (Unused)
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AT: HENRY BUTCHER AUCTION CENTER
C/O HILON COMPOUND - BO. MAYAPA, CANLUBANG, LAGUNA
AUCTION DATE: TUESDAY 24TH JUNE 2003 10:30AM SHARP
VIEWING DATE: MONDAY 23RD JUNE 2003
9:00AM - 6:00PM AND MORNING OF SALE DAY
REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT: PHP10,000 (UPON REGISTRATION)

HENRY BUTCHER
HENRY BUTCHER INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINES INC.

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
860 Quezon Ave., Quezon City, Metro Manila 1103
Tel. Nos. 372-50-57 • 372-50-42
Fax Nos. 372-50-48 • 372-50-61

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Department of Agriculture (DA-BFAR), invites qualified bidders/suppliers to participate in the bidding of the **"Various Aqua Feeds"**.

Bid form together with complete specifications may be obtained from Property Section and NFFTC, Muñoz, Nueva Ecija.

Sealed bids will be received and open at the BFAR, Conference Room, Quezon City not later than **2:00 PM** on **July 11, 2003.**

Interested bidder are required to submit the following requirements upon securing bidding forms: Photo copies of Business License, Certification Registration/DTI, latest audited Financial Statement, latest Income Tax Return (Original copies to be shown for authentication purposes).

This office reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any required formality and award the contract to any bidder whose proposal as evaluated by the PBAC is the most advantageous to the government. The PBAC assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of bids, or does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **MALCOLM I. SARMIENTO, JR.**
Director

(PDI–June 22, 2003)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Early Childhood Development Project Printing and Reproduction of Various IEC Materials

IFB No. WB-ECD-03-DOH-003

1. The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development toward the cost of Early Childhood Development Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contract for which this invitation for bids is issued.
2. The Department of Health now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the printing and reproduction of the following IEC materials:

Item No.	Description	Quantity	Unit
1	IMCI Wall Chart (1 pcs set)	30	Sets
2	IMCI Basic Skills Module	2,500	Sets
3	IMCH Counseling Cards	10,400	Copies
4	ECCD Card	3,500,000	Copies

3. Bidding will be conducted through the national competitive bidding procedures specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits, and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents at the Office of Procurement and Logistics Service, Building 26, Department of Health, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila with telephone number (632) 338-3413 to 14, fax number. (632) 743-9582, 711-6831 from 24 June to 21 July 2003, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.
5. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Five Thousand Pesos (Php 5,000.00) or US$150 including air courier for foreign bidders. The method of payment will be cash or bank draft. If payment is in form of bank draft, the check should be for the account of the Department of Health. Information including names of potential bidders and contact persons telephone and facsimile numbers, cable, e-mail and mailing address should be provided in the application to facilitate communications during the bidding process
6. Bids must be delivered at the HHRDB Conference Room, Department of Health, Building 12A, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila at or before 9:00 a.m. on 22 July 2003. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of not less than 2.5% of total bid. Late bids will be rejected outright and returned unopened to the bidder.
7. Prior to bid opening, a pre-bidding conference will be held at the HHRDB Conference Room at 9:00 a.m. on 8 July 2003
8. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend on 22 July 2003 at 9:00 a.m. at the HHRDB Conference Room, Department of Health, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila.

By the authority of the Secretary:

(Sgd.) **ALEXANDER A. PADILLA**
Undersecretary and Chairperson
Central Office Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI - June 22 & 29, 2003)

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3 SANIB	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 3 HULK 1 55 4 45 7 35 10 25	REX RELOADED July 1 - 8 00 pm NANETTE I. W/ GARY V. July 3 , 9pm	GUARANTEED SEATS 3 IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY 1 50 4 00 [illegible] 10 30	3 HULK
4 HULK	4 HOW TO LOSE A GUY IN 10 DAYS		GUARANTEED SEATS 4 BRUCE ALMIGHTY 1 50 4 00 6 10 8 20 10 30	4 ANG TANGING INA
	5 BRUCE ALMIGHTY		GUARANTEED SEATS 5 HULK 12 10 3 00 5 50 8 40 11 30	5 BRUCE ALMIGHTY
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10	SANIB

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4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6	RESERVE
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4	THE HULK
5	ANG HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
6	BERTUD NG PUTIK

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2	BERTUD NG PUTIK

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4	THE HULK

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Gotesco City
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1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
4	BERTUD NG PUTIK
5	ANG HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
6	ALAB NG LAHI
7	SANIB
8	PANGARAP KONG IIBIGIN KA
9	OPERATION BALIKATAN

Gotesco Caloocan
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2	RESERVE

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1	SANIB
2	PANGARAP KONG IIBIGIN KA
3	ANG TANGING INA
4	THE HULK
5	ANG HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
6	BERTUD NG PUTIK
7	THE HULK
8	BIGAY HILIG
9	OPERATION BALIKATAN

Gotesco Commonwealth
tel 951.0082

1	ANG TANGING INA
2	ANG HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
3	THE HULK
4	THE HULK
5	BERTUD NG PUTIK

Gotesco Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
2	ANG HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
3	THE HULK
4	ANG TANGING INA
5	THE HULK

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	BERTUD NG PUTIK

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	THE HULK

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(Manila) tel 734.7724

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Jennet	

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1	ANG HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
2	BERTUD NG PUTIK
3	THE HULK
4	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto SUPER CINERAMA
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1	OPERATION BALIKATAN
2	PANGARAP KONG IIBIGIN KA
3	ANG HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
4	BERTUD NG PUTIK
5	ALAB NG LAHI

FRC Cinema
(Talaba Bacoor Cavite)

1	
2	

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2	ALAB NG LAHI

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1	PANGARAP KONG IBIGIN KITA
2	SANIB
3	BERTUD NG PUTIK
4	THE HULK
5	THE HULK
6	ANG HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
7	ANG TANGING INA

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2	CLOSED

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1	PUTIK
2	HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
3	THE HULK

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
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1	PANGARAP KONG IBIGIN KITA
2	ANG TANGING INA
3	THE HULK
4	SANIB

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	ANG TANGING INA
2	PANGARAP KONG IBIGIN KITA
3	THE HULK
4	SANIB

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	PANGARAP KONG IBIGIN KITA
2	ANG TANGING INA
3	BERTUD NG PUTIK
4	

Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729

1	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
2	SANIB
3	THE HULK
4	BRUCE ALMIGHTY

Magic Star Cinema
(Tarlac City) tel (045) 611.4305

1	THE HULK
2	SANIB
3	OPERATION BALIKATAN

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1	BIGAY HILIG
2	THE HULK
3	BERTUD NG PUTIK
4	ANG HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1	PANGARAP KONG IBIGIN KITA
2	BERTUD NG PUTIK
3	THE HULK
4	ANG HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
5	SANIB

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	THE HULK
2	ANG HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
3	SANIB

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249.2558

1	SANIB
2	ANG HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
3	THE HULK

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283

1	SANIB
2	THE HULK
3	PANGARAP KONG IBIGIN KITA
4	BERTUD NG PUTIK

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1	
2	

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	SANIB
2	BIGAY HILIG
3	

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	OPERATION BALIKATAN
2	SO CLOSE
3	THE HULK
4	PANGARAP KONG IBIGIN KITA

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045)887-5001 10 03

1	ALAB NG LAHI
2	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
3	THE HULK
4	RING 0

Cine Nepo Mall
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3	THE HULK
4	THE HULK

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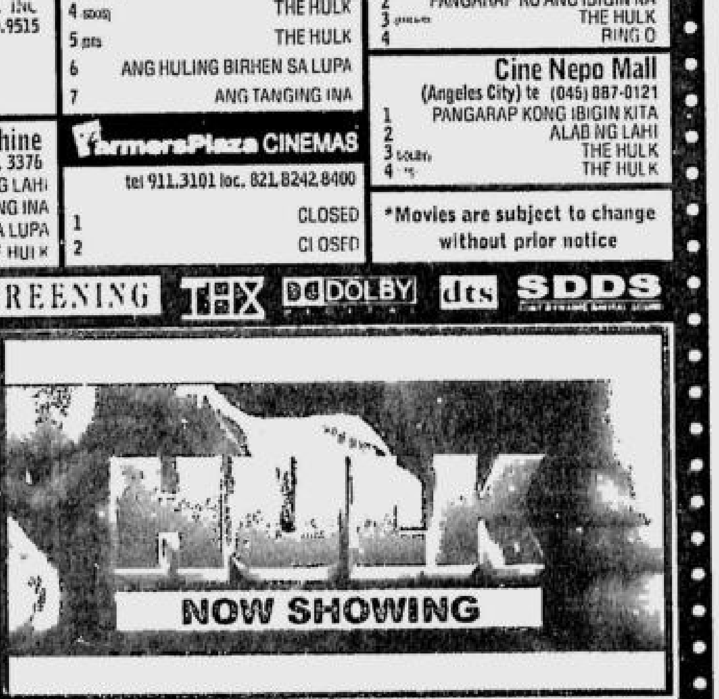

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SM CITY BACOOR
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1	BRUCE ALMIGHTY
2	BERTUD NG PUTIK
3	HULK
4	ANG TANGING INA
5	HULK
6	SANIB
7	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
8	HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA

SM CENTERPOINT
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1	ANG TANGING INA
2	HULK
3	HULK
4	HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
5	HULK
6	DARKNESS FALLS
7	BRUCE ALMIGHTY
8	BERTUD NG PUTIK
9	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
10	SANIB

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

1	HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
2	OPERATION BALIKATAN
3	ALAB NG LAHI
4	HULK
5	SANIB
6	BERTUD NG PUTIK
7	HULK
8	DARKNESS FALLS
9	ANG TANGING INA
10	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
11	BRUCE ALMIGHTY
12	HULK

SM CITY MANILA
5239240

1	SANIB
2	BERTUD NG PUTIK
3	OPERATION BALIKATAN
4	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
5	HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
6	ALAB NG LAHI
7	HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
8	OPERATION BALIKATAN
9	SANIB
10	ALAB NG LAHI
11	BERTUD NG PUTIK
12	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401

1	HULK
2	THE MATRIX RELOADED
3	HULK
4	BRUCE ALMIGHTY
5	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
6	DARKNESS FALLS
7	HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
8	ALAB NG LAHI
9	ANG TANGING INA
10	HULK
11	SANIB
12	BERTUD NG PUTIK

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9285452

1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
2	ANG TANGING INA
3	HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
4	SANIB
5	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
6	BRUCE ALMIGHTY
7	HULK
8	HULK

SM SOUTHMALL
8066888

1	SANIB
2	BRUCE ALMIGHTY
3	HULK
4	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
5	THE MATRIX RELOADED
6	DARKNESS FALLS
7	ANG TANGING INA
8	HULK
9	BERTUD NG PUTIK
10	HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA

SM CITY CEBU
2313876

1	HULK
2	BRUCE ALMIGHTY
3	THE HOURS
4	DARKNESS FALLS
5	HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
6	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
7	ANG TANGING INA
8	HULK

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422

1	SANIB
2	HULK
3	HULK
4	HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
5	PAKNERS
6	RING 0
7	CLOSED
8	ANG TANGING INA

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015

1	HULK
2	HULK
3	SO CLOSE
4	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
5	HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
6	BERTUD NG PUTIK

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975

1	SANIB
2	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
3	HULK
4	ANG TANGING INA

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302

1	SANIB
2	BERTUD NG PUTIK
3	HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
4	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA

SM CITY DAVAO
2976988

1	HULK
2	RING 0
3	BRUCE ALMIGHTY
4	ANG TANGING INA
5	AGENT CODY BANKS
6	HULK

SM BICUTAN
776-3055

1	HULK
2	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
3	ANG TANGING INA
4	HULK

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
858-2884

1	AGENT CODY BANKS
2	DARKNESS FALLS
3	HULK
4	ANG TANGING INA

THE PODIUM CINEMA
18 ADB Avenue Ortigas Center Mandaluyong City
633-8976

1	HULK 11:10 FS/11:40 MF/2:30/5:20/8:10/ 10:30 LFS/11:00 LMF/1:20 END
2	HULK 10:35 FS/11:05 MF/1:50/4:40/7:30/ 9:50 LFS/10:20 LMF/12:40 END

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2	HULK
3	HULK
4	THE GURU
5	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
6	DARKNESS FALLS
7	SANIB
8	HULING BIRHEN
9	ANG TANGING INA
10	BRUCE ALMIGHTY

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2	SANIB
3	BERTUD NG PUTIK
4	HULING BIRHEN
5	ALAB NG LAHI
6	BALIKATAN
7	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA

Metro East - Marcos hway
682-8193 / 8280

1	DARKNESS FALLS
2	HULK
3	ANG TANGING INA
4	HULK
5	BRUCE ALMIGHTY
6	SANIB
7	HULK
8	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA

Novaliches
935-3229-30

1	HULK
2	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
3	ANG TANGING INA
4	HULK
5	DARKNESS FALLS
6	BRUCE ALMIGHTY
7	SANIB
8	HULING BIRHEN

Malabon Citisquare
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1	SANIB
2	BERTUD NG PUTIK
3	HULK
4	ANG TANGING INA

Star Mills- Sn Fernando, Pamp
(045)875-1927
(045)961-5270

1	HULK
2	HULK
3	ANG TANGING INA
4	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
5	SANIB
6	HULING BIRHEN

Imus
471-8188 / 875-3838

1	HULK
2	BERTUD NG PUTIK
3	ANG TANGING INA
4	HULK
5	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
6	SANIB

Sta. Rosa Laguna
(049)837-0907

1	HULK
2	SANIB
3	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
4	ANG TANGING INA
5	HULING BIRHEN

Bacolod
441-0453 / 0459

1	HULK
2	AGENT CODY BANKS
3	SANIB
4	PAKNERS
5	ANG TANGING INA
6	SOUL KEEPER

Iloilo
336-8077-78

1	HULK
2	RING 0
3	PAKNERS
4	HULK
5	HULING BIRHEN
6	DAYO

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Villager invents 'giant pressure cooker' for mushrooms

By Anselmo Roque
PDI Central Luzon Desk

SCIENCE CITY OF MUNOZ—When Eduardo Matic Sr., 40, of Barangay Matingkis here attended an eight-session training on mushroom technology, he felt challenged by the parting words of their trainor.

"I hope this training would not end as just another training. I wish I could see beautiful results as you apply the knowledge you have gained from this training," said Dr. Renato Reyes, director of the Center for Tropical Mushroom Research and Development of the Central Luzon State University.

What he felt as a challenge was not just the culture of mushroom to earn additional income for the family.

He was thinking of designing the pieces of equipment needed for the mushroom technology.

"I know that the critical factor in mushroom culture and production is the spawn. It will be very difficult for us to rely on producers for our mushroom spawns. What if they couldn't provide the spawns that we need?" Matic asked.

Few people produce mushroom spawns and these are priced high and at times are not of good quality.

Matic learned that to put up a very functional laboratory for spawn production and for mushroom culture, a fairly big amount of money is needed.

The autoclave, which is needed for sterilizing the materials for the production of "pure culture" and "mother culture" spawns, costs from P25,000 to P30,000.

Then there is another container needed for the sterilization of the substrate or the growth medium for the growing of mushrooms.

Other items needed for the laboratory are the inoculation chamber, inoculation needle, lamps and some other materials.

He says he thought of designing or inventing the mushroom laboratory equipment. He was certain that his "invention" would be able to help his co-trainees in his village put up a sustainable mushroom production venture at minimal cost.

First to come out in the efforts of Matic was an improvised autoclave. It was made up of an ordinary cauldron reinforced in the outside with flat metal and tightly sealed. It has a pressure gauge and an exhauster.

Its height is 19 inches and a diameter of nine inches. Costing only P6,000, it can be made functional with the use of charcoal, firewood, electricity, or stoves fired by methane gas. It can contain 50 flat bottles of mushroom spawns ready for sterilization.

Matic says the autoclave could be used to produce the "pure culture" and "mother culture" spawns.

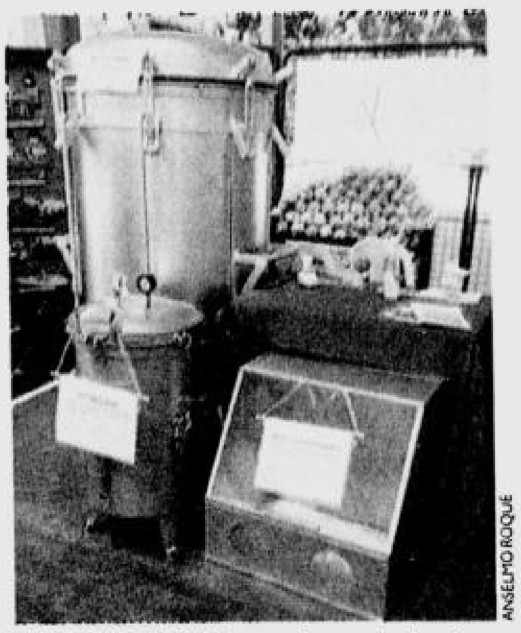
He says they were taught that in the pure culture of mushroom spawns, mushroom tissues are planted first in a prepared liquid of potato, dextrose powder, and agar (*gulaman*).

The liquid preparation with the planted mushroom tissue in it is sterilized in the autoclave for 30 minutes.

Based on his training, Matic says, the needs for the liquid medium for one set of culture, which can produce 15 bottles of pure culture mushroom spawn, are 200 grams of potato, 100 grams of dextrose powder, and three pieces of agar.

The potato is boiled and when already very soft, the dextrose powder and the agar are mixed. From this mixture, about one-and-a-half liters of liquid are produced which are then placed inside the bottles, sealed with paper or cotton, and then sterilized.

"Three weeks after the sterilization process, all the 15 bottles will be filled with pure culture mushroom spawns," Matic says.


ANSELMO ROQUE

THE AUTOCLAVE for mushroom technology invented by villager Eduardo Matic.

From this comes next the production of mother culture mushroom spawn. In pure culture, he says, slices of the pure culture spawns are transferred to round bottles.

As conditioner, a mixture of sorghum, wheat and corn grains are used inside the bottle. Once covered, the bottles are sterilized. From three weeks to one month, the bottles will be filled up with spawns that are then ready for commercial production.

Matic, who is now invited to give lectures on mushroom spawn production and mushroom culture, says a bottle of pure culture mushroom spawn sells at P100 while the mother culture spawn is sold at P50 per bottle.

Finding that his designed autoclave was not big enough for the commercial production of mushroom, Matic went on to produce a bigger version of his autoclave.

He came out with his giant pressure cooker, which is made up of thick galvanized iron reinforced with metal bars in the outside and provided with a pressure gauge, an exhauster, and a platform.

It is less than six feet in height and has a diameter of 80 centimeters. It can build pressure of up to 15 psi.

Matic says he sells this giant pressure cooker, which can be used to sterilize about 300 polypropylene bags for the culture of Kabuteng Pamaypay (*Pleurotus sajor-caju*), at P12,000.

In the commercial production of Kabuteng Pamaypay, the substrate used as growing medium is a combination of sawdust and rice straw, he says.

He adds that his giant pressure cooker is a big help in sterilizing a relatively big number of bagged substrates.

Matic says a cooperative in his village, which employs a number of housewives, is now successful in its mushroom production venture.

He supplies the spawns produced by his laboratory, which uses the pieces of equipment he invented. He says several local governments have since bought from him the giant pressure cooker that they needed in putting mushroom projects in their own communities.

Others are now using his giant pressure cooker in tenderizing meat being readied for cooking food for big gatherings in the community, he says.

Sandal-maker . . .

From page B5

badmouthing of some competitors. He did not get the P25,000 a month he normally averaged.

Another friend, a fellow sandal maker in Legazpi, advised him not to focus on just one town for his market to avoid drastic loss in income.

He then put up displays in Bulan, Matnog, Bulusan, Sorsogon and Gubat. He, however, closed the Gubat display center early this year due to its distance from his place.

And to further draw customers to Lakat, he would think of strategies like giving freebies and other perks.

Nono still lives with his parents, to whom he gives his income that has grown considerably in years.

He has helped in the construction of their house. He now has his own motorcyle, a "beautiful" bike, and mountaineering gadgets.

Friendship with people and patience are some of the secrets of his trade, according to Nono. "I can't do this alone so I'm very thankful to my friends."

He also would not compromise the quality of his craft. Even with two or three helpers he would make the sandals and *tsinelas* by himself if he can.

"It's too hard to give orders when you can do it yourself. I think of that (quality)," Nono says.

He even works up to 12 in the evening and rises as early as seven in the morning when customers would wake him up.

No to a partnership

He is reluctant to accept offers of business partnerships.

Even if he had gone to college, he says he still prefers a business.

"Within the next two to three years, if this (trend) would come all the way, I hope to put up a complete outdoor sports shop in Irosin. No one has put up one here yet," he expresses.

Lakat will join the Provincial Trade Fair on June 22 in Sorsogon City.

Seeing a good future in his small business, Nono is taking one step at a time.

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– Mike Clark, USA Today

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MTRCB Rating: Restricted 18 (R-18)

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MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13

PELIKULANG DAPAT TUTULAN
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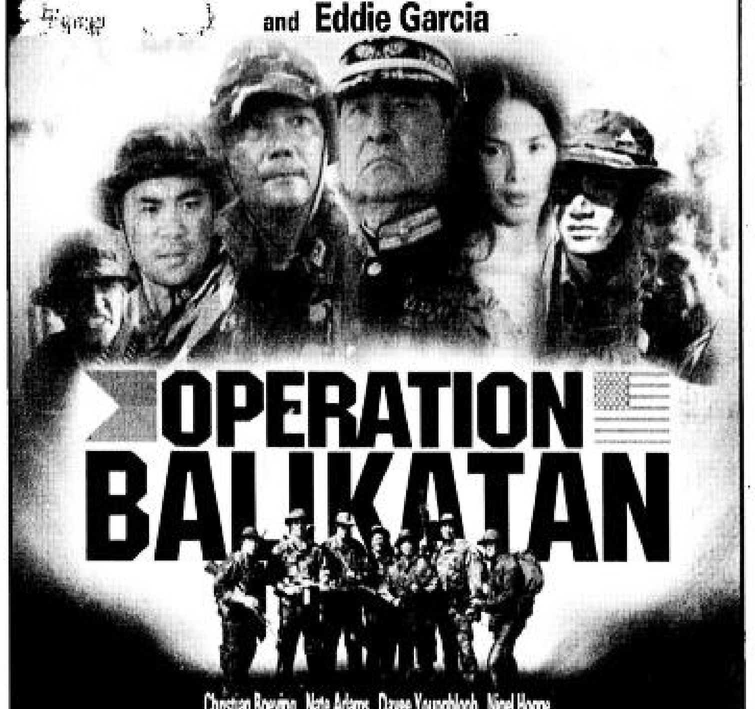

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Ali 2	SANIB
Ali 3	BERTUD NG PUTIK
Ali 4	THE HULK
Ali 5	THE HULK
Ali 6	BRUCE ALMIGHTY
Ali 7	TANGING INA

ARANETA COLISEUM

JUNE 22	PBA GAMES
JUNE 28	NCAA OPENING CEREMONIES
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JULY 12	UAAP OPENING CEREMONIES
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GREENBELT 2 **Monologues and SERENADES** July 2, 7 pm

GREENBELT 3 **Monologues and THEATER DUETS** July 3, 7 pm

AYALA CENTER

MTRCB RATING ▶ R RESTRICTED

SUMAMBA NA ANG SAMBAYANAN!
PAHUHULI KA PA BA?

ara mina jay manalo maui taylor

ang huling birhen sa lupa

"Ang ganda, ganda ng pelikula! Mas maganda pa ito kaysa pelikulang Himala. I'm sure it will win a lot of awards."
Armida Siguion-Reyna - Film Producer/ former MTRCB Chairman

"Brilliant! Definitely one of the best films of the year."
Isah Red - Manila Standard

"I am amazed that Maui registers so effectively in her role... Ara also has many acting highlights ... I won't be surprised if she'd bag another best actress award for her compelling performance."
Mario Bautista - Manila Bulletin/ Malaya/People's Journal

"Ang Huling Birhen Sa Lupa will draw the crowds and most of the trophies in the awards night!"
Edgar Cruz - Daily Tribune/ Star Studio

"It's bold, it's very well crafted with excellent performances! Definitely Lamangan's best so far!"
Ed Pacheco - PM

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MANILA

EASTERN	
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ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE

QUEZON CITY

ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	SEX DRIVE / JAIL BRIDE
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR

NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA

A	ALAB NG LAH.
B	BERTUD NG PUTIK
C	

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CINEMA-2	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

CAINTA RIZAL

STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
CINEMA-2	PAKNERS
CINEMA-3	BIGAY HILIG
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	HULK
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	HULK
CINEMA-6	HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
CINEMA-7	MATRIX - RELOADED
CINEMA-8	OPERATION BALIKATAN
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	HULK
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	HULK
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	SANIB
CINEMA-12	ANG TANGING INA
CINEMA-14	BRUCE ALMIGHTY
CINEMA-15	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA

LORES

CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT

NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN

CINEMA 1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
CINEMA 2	PANGARAP KO ANG IBIGIN KA
CINEMA 3	HULK
CINEMA 4	SANIB

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL

(PARANAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

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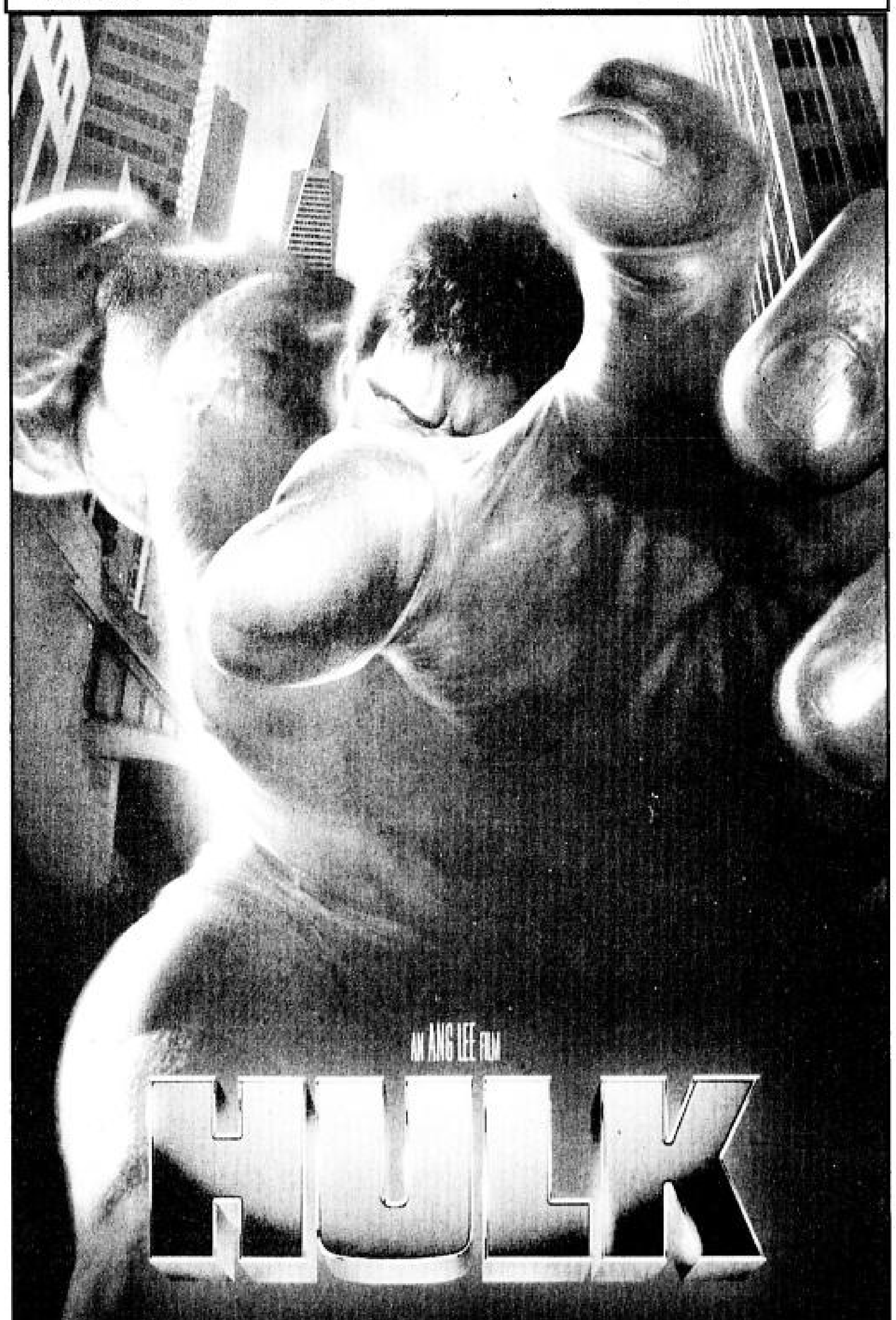

UNIVERSAL PICTURES PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH MARVEL ENTERPRISES A VALHALLA MOTION PICTURES / GOOD MACHINE PRODUCTION AN ANG LEE FILM "THE HULK" ERIC BANA JENNIFER CONNELLY SAM ELLIOTT JOSH LUCAS AND NICK NOLTE MUSIC BY DANNY ELFMAN COSTUME DESIGNER MARIT ALLEN EDITOR TIM SQUYRES A.C.E. PRODUCTION DESIGNER RICK HEINRICHS DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY FREDERICK ELMES A.S.C. EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS STAN LEE KEVIN FEIGE PRODUCED BY GALE ANNE HURD AVI ARAD JAMES SCHAMUS LARRY FRANCO SOUNDTRACK ON DECCA / UMG SOUNDTRACKS www.thehulk.com STORY BY JAMES SCHAMUS SCREENPLAY BY JOHN TURMAN AND MICHAEL FRANCE AND JAMES SCHAMUS united international pictures MARVEL SPECIAL VISUAL EFFECTS AND ANIMATION BY INDUSTRIAL LIGHT & MAGIC DIRECTED BY ANG LEE A UNIVERSAL PICTURE VIVA

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PELIKULA NI LOUIE LAGDAMEO IGNACIO

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GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

Experts look at impact of human behavior on economic choices

CHATHAM, Massachusetts—Say you're going to come into a sum of money. Would you rather get $3,000 next week, or $3,800 in a couple of months?

Well, that depends on whether you just ate a bag of sweets, according to a recent study.

Researchers gave a bag of sweets to two groups of people and asked them that question. Those who were allowed to eat the sweets first and then answer the question were quite happy to wait for the extra cash. The ones who had to answer the question before eating the sweets opted to take the smaller sum of money rather than wait.

Studies such as these, which focus on how human behavior and emotions affect people's economic choices, are part of a rapidly growing field known as behavioral economics.

It challenges one of the fundamental principles of economic theory: That people are perfectly rational and always act in their best economic interests. And it has sweeping implications for how policy makers view the economy.

Naturally, none of this is news in fields such as advertising that play on emotions as a matter of course.

"Emotions have the capacity to turn us into virtually different people—spendthrifts or tightwads, among other things," said George Loewenstein, the professor at Carnegie Mellon University who worked on the study.

And that makes people's behavior especially hard to predict for economists trying to divine pressing questions such as where consumer spending is headed, or whether Americans are more likely to spend or save the latest round of tax cuts.

For the first time, the US central bank, the Federal Reserve, has declared an interest in behavioral economics, which not that long ago was considered heretical by mainstream economists.

The Boston Federal Reserve Bank, one of 12 regional Fed banks, last week held its annual conference on the topic of "How Humans Behave—Implications for Economics and Policy." For two days at a resort in Cape Cod, psychologists, anthropologists, sociologists, economists and Fed officials pored over MRI scans of the brain and discussed laboratory studies in which people make irrational economic choices.

"Behavioral economists have discovered the wild side of macroeconomic behavior," said Boston Fed president Cathy Minehan.

Missing links

The challenge now is making connections between the research, which draws heavily on psychology and the social sciences, and the economy at large.

"Behavioral economics provides a whole lot of missing links to understand things like why we have business cycles, why people's spending behavior fluctuates over time," Carnegie Mellon's Loewenstein told Reuters.

"Macroeconomics doesn't always have good theories about those issues," said Loewenstein, who is a professor of both economics and psychology.

Traditional economics, for instance, doesn't spend a lot of time on individuals' tendencies to be overconfident or avoid risk, which can go a long way toward explaining recent stock market behavior through the bubble years of the 1990s and the slow, painful bust of the past three years.

Some behavioral economists say policy makers should give more weight to consumer sentiment surveys, which ask people questions about current and future economic conditions and their spending plans. *Reuters*

US restos worry about fat lawsuits

WASHINGTON—Restaurants, cookie makers and other food companies are asking Congress to shield them from lawsuits by fat people.

"The thought that someone can file a lawsuit based in part on a choice they have made regarding where to dine and what to eat is disturbing," Christianne Ricchi, board member of the National Restaurant Association, said Thursday at a hearing with the House judiciary subcommittee on commercial law.

To fend off lawyers' and consumers' claims that super-sized portions and fast food are making them fat, the association and the food industry are lobbying Congress to pass a bill by Rep. Ric Keller, a Republican, which would protect them from lawsuits. No similar bill has been introduced in the Senate.

Keller, who received $2,500 from the National Restaurant Association in the 2000 election year, argued that the lawsuits are frivolous and won't solve the obesity problem.

"Of course, this litigation won't make anyone skinnier, but it would make the lawyers' bank accounts fatter," Keller said.

In 2001, the surgeon general said obesity was turning into an epidemic in the United States. About 60 percent of the nation's adult population and 13 percent of children are overweight, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Recently, consumers have begun suing fast-food chains like McDonald's and Wendy's, arguing that the food has contributed to their obesity and diseases such as diabetes. *AP*

Don't ask clients to buy more; ask manufacturers to sell more

SHOPWISE Supercenters, the pioneer in hypermarket operations in the Philippines, recently held awarding ceremonies for the first ever Category Olympics for its snacks and beverage festival.

The snack and beverage Category Olympics is a new promotional concept introduced by Shopwise to drive sales by promoting successful collaboration through competition. The Category Olympics reverses the typical promotions paradigm in which customers are directly given incentives to induce purchase of particular products. Instead, the Category Olympics provides rewards to those who are directly responsible for the success of the promotion.

Shopwise assistant vice president for marketing, Frances Yu, said maximizing sales and delighting customers is a collaborative effort between the retailer and the manufacturer.

"We harnessed the competitive spirit among Shopwise business partners, as well as Shopwise personnel who competed against each other for cash prizes worth P300,000 and other rewards. By creating friendly competition among manufacturers, and various departments within Shopwise, we were able to create a real win-win situation for all participants, and most especially, the customers."

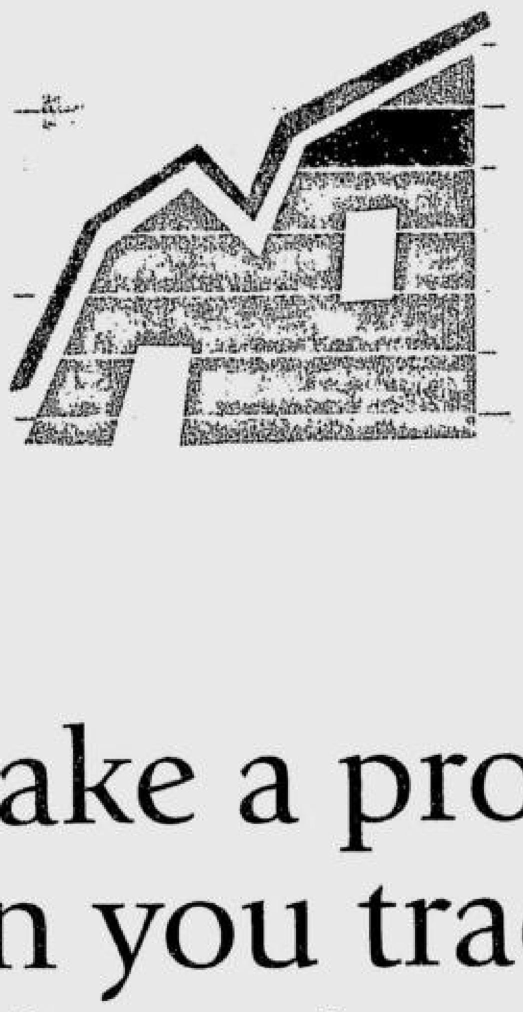
After four weeks of competition, the final results were impressive. Participating manufacturers for the snacks category grew sales by an average of 80 percent versus the same period of last year, while participating manufacturers for the beverage category grew sales by an average of 40 percent over the same period last year. This is no small feat considering the retail industry has been experiencing flat to minimal growth in the past year.

The winners' circle included top local and multinational manufacturing firms. For the snacks category, the grand prize went to Universal Robina Corp. (Jack & Jill); first runner-up was Monde Nissin and second runner-up also went to Universal Robina Corp. (URC biscuits). For the beverage category, San Miguel Corp.-CKAG (Magnolia Juice) emerged as the grand prize winner; first runner-up was California Manufacturing Corp. (Lipton Tea); and second runner-up was Coca-Cola. Internally, Shopwise Makati bagged both awards for snacks and beverages. The judging criteria set by Shopwise was 50 percent for financial performance, 25 percent for store display and 25 percent for efficiency.

Customers also benefited. The children were delighted by the colorful and animated displays storewide that transformed the shopping ambience into a cartoon wonderland. Parents, on the other hand, welcomed the value-added promotions and price-offs for their purchases particularly during these trying economic times.

Shopwise executive vice president and general manager Bienvenido Tantoco III thanked its valued suppliers for their participation. Shopwise vice president for merchandising Catherine Y. Tantoco said that this was the first time that Shopwise has formally given recognition to some of its' suppliers for their outstanding partnership and support.

Shopwise has three branches located in Festival Supermall, Filinvest-Alabang; Vito Cruz Extension cor. Pasong Tamo in Makati and in Libis, Quezon City. It is open from 10 a.m. until 11 p.m. on weekdays and 9 a.m. until 11 p.m. on weekends and holidays.



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Editor Louie C. Camino

WATCH THE WEDDING
Donita Rose and Eric Villarama star in a real-life GMA 7 special called "The Promise," on their June 9 nuptials in Santa Barbara, California. The special also features the pre-wedding events in Singapore and the United States. "The Promise," part of GMA 7's month-long celebration of its 53rd anniversary, starts at 9:30 p.m tonight.

Lolita Rodriguez to do Viva movie

By Leah Salterio

ICON Lolita Rodriguez is returning to the movies through Viva Films' "Filipinas," intended to be an entry in the Metro Manila Film Festival in December.

Rodriguez has not acted in a movie after she decided to settle in the United States. Her last movie to be shown in the Philippines was the late Lino Brocka's "Ina Ka ng Anak Mo," shown in 1979.

However, in 1992, she played the title role in "Lucia," a movie about Manila slum dwellers which Mel Chionglo directed for British Broadcasting Co. (BBC). The movie, based on a Ricky Lee script, won the best film award at the London Environmental Film Festival. It had a limited showing at the Manila Film Center in 1997 and on local TV.

The Viva Films movie will be directed by Joel Lamangan and will also star Maricel Soriano who will play one of Rodriguez's daughters. Also in the cast are Hilda Koronel, Richard Gomez, Jolina Magdangal, Victor Neri and Wendell Ramos.

The December film festival will be a battle of movie queens, since Susan Roces will star in the sequel to "Mano Po," to be produced by Regal Entertainment.

Rodriguez is expected to return to Manila in August to start filming "Filipinas."

Some industry insiders think the movie title sounds "historical" and should be replaced with something more dramatic, like "Sa Ngalan ng Ina."

Rodriguez started appearing in movies in the '50s, her first starring role being Mar S. Torres' "Jack en Jill," opposite Dolphy, in 1952.

She was one of the favorite stars of the late Brocka, who directed her in the landmark "Tinimbang Ka Ngunit Kulang," "Ina, Kapatid, Anak" with the late Charito Solis, "Ina Ka ng Anak Mo" with Nora Aunor, "Stardoom" with the late Walter Navarro, "Tatlo Dalawa Isa," and "Lunes, Martes, Miyerkules, Huwebes, Biyernes, Sabado, Linggo."

She was in Celso Ad. Castillo's "Paradise Inn," which won a best actress award for co-star Vivian Velez.

In "Filipinas," Maricel Soriano plays a dutiful daughter who takes care of her mother (Rodriguez) and never leaves her side.

For accepting "Filipinas," Maricel was taken out of the cast of the "Mano Po" sequel. And since Lamangan is directing "Filipinas," he has begged off from doing "Mano Po 2," which will now be directed by Erik Matti.

Maricel has also turned down a Star Cinema offer to star in another possible entry in the December festival, to be directed by Chito Roño.

But her manager, Wyngard Tracy, explained that he only accepted the "Filipinas" project for Maricel after he was informed about the change of plans of Regal matriarch Lily Monteverde for "Mano Po 2."

Maverick Films, meanwhile, is planning a movie for Maricel and Rudy Fernandez, who were last seen together in 1994's "Nagkataon, Nagkatagpo."

US stars to attend Makati's Cinemanila

FIL-AMERICAN movie celebrities Rob Schneider, Dean Devlin, Lou Diamond Phillips, Tia Carrere and Fritz Friedman will receive lifetime achievement awards when Makati Cinemanila International Film Festival (MCIFF) opens on Aug. 7 at the Onstage Greenbelt in Makati City.

They will be honored for their contribution in helping Filipino war veterans and for being models of excellence in their careers, according to a Cinemanila statement.

The screening of the movies of Phillips, Schneider, Carrere and Devlin will also be part of Makati Cinemanila International Film Festival's program.

MCIFF is an annual project of Makati City under Mayor Jejomar Binay and the Independent Cinema Association of the Philippines founded by filmmaker Amable "Tikoy"

US/C7

MRS. BRAD PITT earned $35 million last year, and Forbes says her marriage may have helped put her on 13 magazine covers REUTERS

Britney out; Jennifer No. 1

NEW YORK—Pop princess Britney Spears learned on Thursday that fame can be fleeting as she disappeared from this year's Forbes Top 100 Celebrity List after last year's No. 1 spot.

Replacing her at the top is Jennifer Aniston, one of TV's "Friends" stars, who earned $35 million last year and appeared on more magazine covers than any other celebrity.

Jennifer "J-Lo" Lopez and Ben Affleck emerged as Hollywood's hottest new power couple, occupying the fifth and seventh spots on the list, with a combined income of $65 million.

It has not been a good year for Spears, who hit it big in 1999 with "Oops!..I Did it Again." She has had a string of bad press recently, as her much publicized relationship with Justin Timberlake of N'Sync went sour.

Her movie "Crossroads" was less than successful.

"Good press or bad press, all press is equal in our eyes," said Peter Kafka, an editor at Forbes, the business magazine that compiled the list, which takes into consideration earnings, press clippings, radio and TV coverage and web hits.

"By dollar value, Britney did not have a big album or a big tour, the proponents that usually land celebrities on the list," said Kafka.

Rappers Eminem and Dr. Dre take the number 2 slot this year, also earning $35 million, but with nearly 2 million web hits. Golfer Tiger Woods slipped from 2 to 3, while earning $78 million, or $9 million more than last year.

Kafka said Aniston, whose husband Brad Pitt did not make the list, was a bit of a surprise.

"Aniston's marriage may have helped to propel her to 13 covers, but she is still one of the highest paid actresses in Hollywood," he said.

Aniston's female "Friends," Lisa Kudrow (No. 30) and Courteney Cox (41), and one male co-star, Matthew Perry (25), made the list.

"Harry Potter" author J.K. Rowling, catapulted from 34 in 2002 to 15 this year amid anticipation about the latest book in the children's series.

Basketball legend Michael Jordan was 13.

Rounding out the top 10 were movie director Steven Spielberg (4), ex-Beatle Paul McCartney (6), Oprah Winfrey (8), Tom Hanks (9) and The Rolling Stones (10). *Reuters*

DID YOU KNOW...

Gretchen Barreto works out at the gym of RCBC Plaza on Ayala Avenue in Makati City. Gym-mates say she is very friendly. They also say she is always accompanied by bodyguards.

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The weekly draws will be held on June 6, 13, 20, 27; July 4, 11, 18, 25, and August 1, 8, 15, 2003.
Winners will be notified via text, a call from an authorized representative, or by registered mail.

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f. Loviscol 500mg 10-piece foil pack
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h. Dimetapp 120mL Pediatric Syrup
i. Dimetapp 15mL Infant Drops

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Very Very Happy Anniversary!

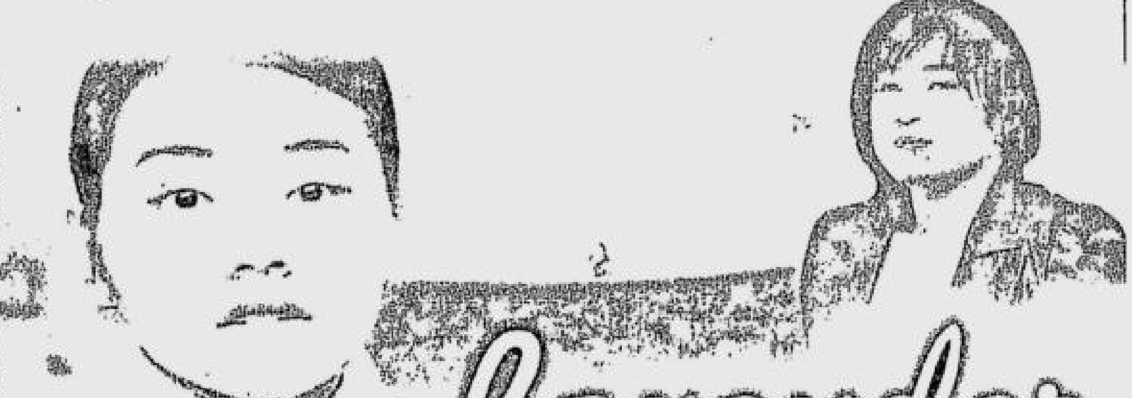
GMA at 53

Very Very bonggang ending sa ating month-long
Very Very engrandeng celebration!

The Poor Prince

Si Vic Zhou ng F4, Kapuso na!

Monday-Friday, simula June 23, bago mag-Frontpage



Lavender

The most romantic Asian drama.

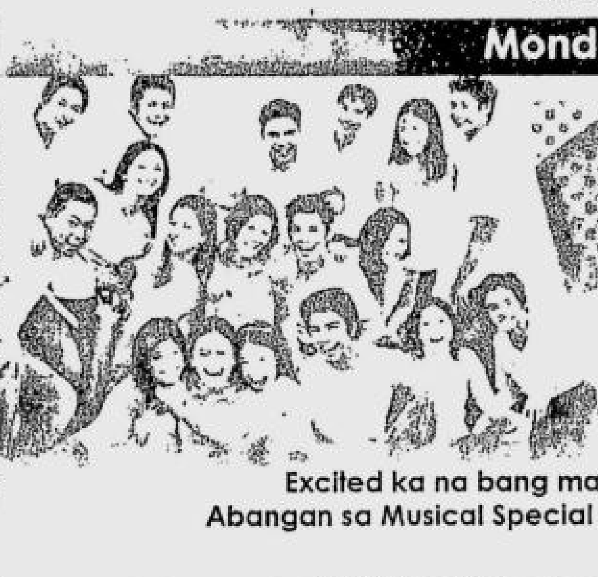
Monday-Friday, simula June 30

The Promise

The Eric Villarama-Donita Rose Cavett
Wedding Special

Each of us has a vow to keep and a promise to fulfill.

[illegible]day, June 22, pagkatapos ng Daddy Di Do Du



Click

Excited ka na bang ma-meet ang mga bagong kabarkada?
Abangan sa Musical Special na welcome party din para sa kanila!
Party nila, party mo rin!

Saturday, June 28, pagkatapos ng Wish Ko Lang

Harapin ang katotohanan!
Abangan ang bagong balita sa Lunes ...

FRONTPAGE

ULAT NI MEL TIANGCO

Pawang katotohanan lamang!

Monday-Friday, bago mag-Telebabad

SAKSI

Kitang-kita ang katotohanan!

Monday-Friday, bandang 11:00 pm

Party natin 'to, Kapuso!

GMA Very Very Happy Anniversary! ALL-STAR CONCERT

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IZA CALZADO · ARNOLD CLAVIO · [illegible] ANGELIKA DELA CRUZ · JOEY DE [illegible] · CHRISTOPHER DE LEON
MARICAR DE MESA · DEXTER [illegible] SHINE DIZON · [illegible] NDEZ · FLAVOURS · [illegible] SCO · TANYA GARCIA
JANNO GIBBS · MARK G[illegible] UTIERREZ · [illegible] E GUTIERREZ · HOTLEGS
ARNEL IGNACIO · JAYA · [illegible] AL · ANG[illegible] · MALIK · MANEOUVERS
TJ MANOTOC · MARIELLE · [illegible] ARTINEZ · [illegible] CHA · WINNIE MONSOD
KC MONTERO · RADIO MON[illegible] MORALES · ALMA MORENO · [illegible] ORBOS · CHYNNA ORTALEZA
BENJIE PARAS · AMY PEREZ · [illegible] ARINA PER[illegible] PRINCESS PUNZALAN · MIRIAM QUI[illegible] · DANIEL RAZON · BONG REVILLA · BRYAN REVILLA
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REGINE VELASQUEZ · CARMINA VILLAROEL · ANJO YLLANA · DIANA ZUBIRI

Friday, June 27, 7pm, Araneta Coliseum. Free Admission!

Telecast on June 28 & 29, sa Blockbuster Cinema at SNBO

Sa 53 years nating Very Very solid na pagsasama-sama, Very Very special na mga palabas ang aming handog-pasasalamat!
All About You, SOP, S-Files, Partners: Mel & Jay, K! The P1 Million Videoke Challenge, Sis, Daboy en Da Girl, Kool Ka Lang, Magpakailanman, Bubble Gang, Startalk, Idol Ko si Kap, Kakabakaba at Master Showman Presents

Thank you Very Very much, Kapuso! Here's to 53 years and beyond!

GMA

Kapuso ng pamilyang Pilipino, anumang kulay ng buhay.

Fight to the finish

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

THE ONGOING flight to the finish on Thursday nights between Channel 2's "Maalaala Mo Kaya" and Channel 7's "Magpakailanman" is instructive to watch.

It's exciting, because it's symbolically a major "duel," the outcome of which can make a substantial difference in how viewers perceive the two channels in the future.

It's a major symbolic fight because for many years now, "Maalaala" has lorded it over its Thursday time slot. The challenge from the "upstart" "Magpakailanman" is thus deemed an audacious and impudent move.

However, there is cause for concern because some reports have it that the Channel 7 dramatic anthology show has been whittling down the Channel 2 program's lead in the ratings with the difference sometimes coming down to only a few rating points.

If this is true, then the people behind "Maalaala" must be staying awake nights, thinking up ways to keep the onslaught of "Magpakailanman" at bay.

One of the Channel 2 show's gambits has been to do what "Magpakailanman" is doing, namely to dramatize the unique conflicts and issues in the lives of celebrities, no longer just of ordinary letter-senders as it used to.

This, the two shows' competing episodes are often both about celebrities' true-to-life drama. After doing this for months, however, the two programs appear to be adding a new wrinkle to their competition, in their search for that extra edge that can defeat the competition: The celebrities whose lives are being dramatized are no longer simply celebrities, but stars who are "unusual" from a physical or psychological point of view.

Thus, two Thursdays ago, one of the programs did an episode about the show biz midget, **Mahal**, while the other dramatized the life story of the gay radio personality, **Tita Swarding**.

Comparing the two shows, we note that Mahal's episode tended to be too consistently lugubrious, with one downbeat emotional scene following another. On the other hand, the Tita Swarding teleplay was more varied in its storytelling style, with lighter moments agreeably alternating with heavily melodramatic sequences.

In addition, **Vhong Navarro**, who played Tita Swarding, proved to be a better actor than Mahal, who portrayed herself. Vhong turns out to have admirable range and depth as a performer, while Mahal is more limited when it comes to emotion and acting style.

So, on the point of quality, the "duel" that particular Thursday was won by the Tita Swarding episode. We wonder if the ratings support this view in terms of the number of viewers who watched each episode. May the better show win!

In future, however, we hope that the two shows give "unusual" celebrities a rest and concentrate on less "exotic" protagonists whom viewers can more readily identify with.

'Pa-Bingo sa mga Bata'

BANTAY Bata 163's "Pa-Bingo sa mga Bata" will be held at 1 p.m., today, June 22 at the World Trade Center, WTCMM Bldg., Financial Center Area, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City. Three cars will be given away, as well as a grand prize of P1 million. Call 411-0856.

RJ Rosales

SINGER-actor **RJ Rosales** is staging a concert, "Revealed & Justified–A Nite with RJ Rosales," at Hard Rock Cafe on June 23. RJ's pop single, "Tulad ng Dati" (by **Moy Ortiz** and **Edith Gallardo**) will be launched at the concert.

"The concert will be a showcase of all styles of music and what I can do," says RJ.

His special guest is **Anna Fegi**. Call 893-4661.

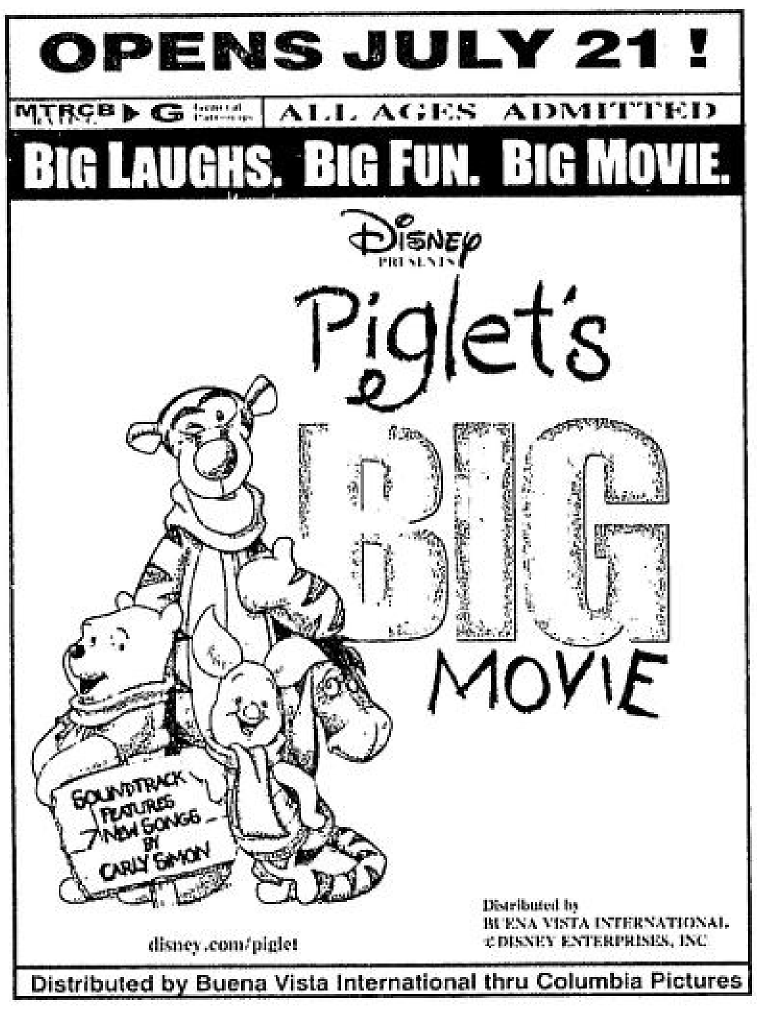
'What's The Worst...'

SAM Weisman's black comedy, "What's the Worst That Could Happen to You?" will be screened at 9 p.m., today, June 22, on Star Movies. **Martin Lawrence** plays a suave robber and **John Leguizamo** is his partner in crime.

NAVARRO

'Ted Bundy'

"Ted Bundy," a film about the States' most notorious serial sex killer, will be shown at 8 p.m., June 22, on Cinemax. Told from Bundy's point of view, the movie captures his twisted, disturbed world.



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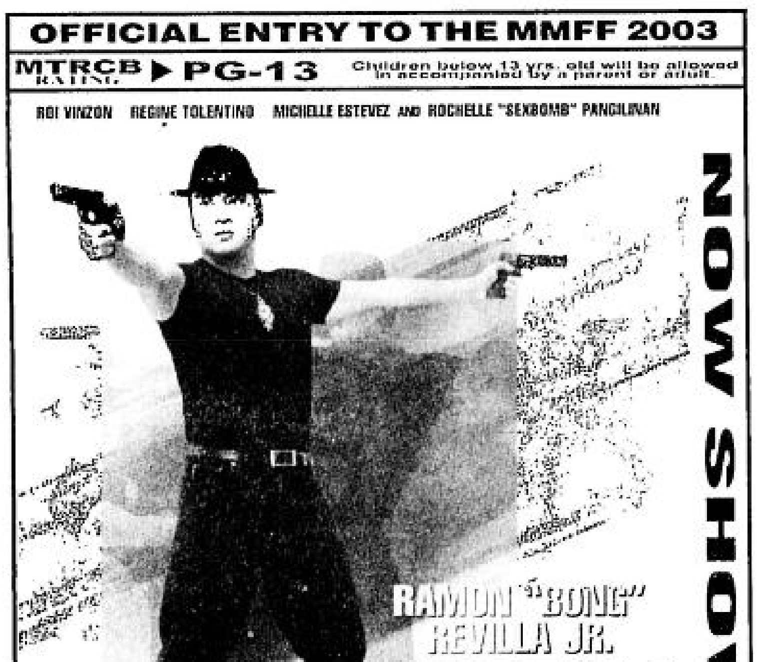

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RAMON "BONG" REVILLA JR.
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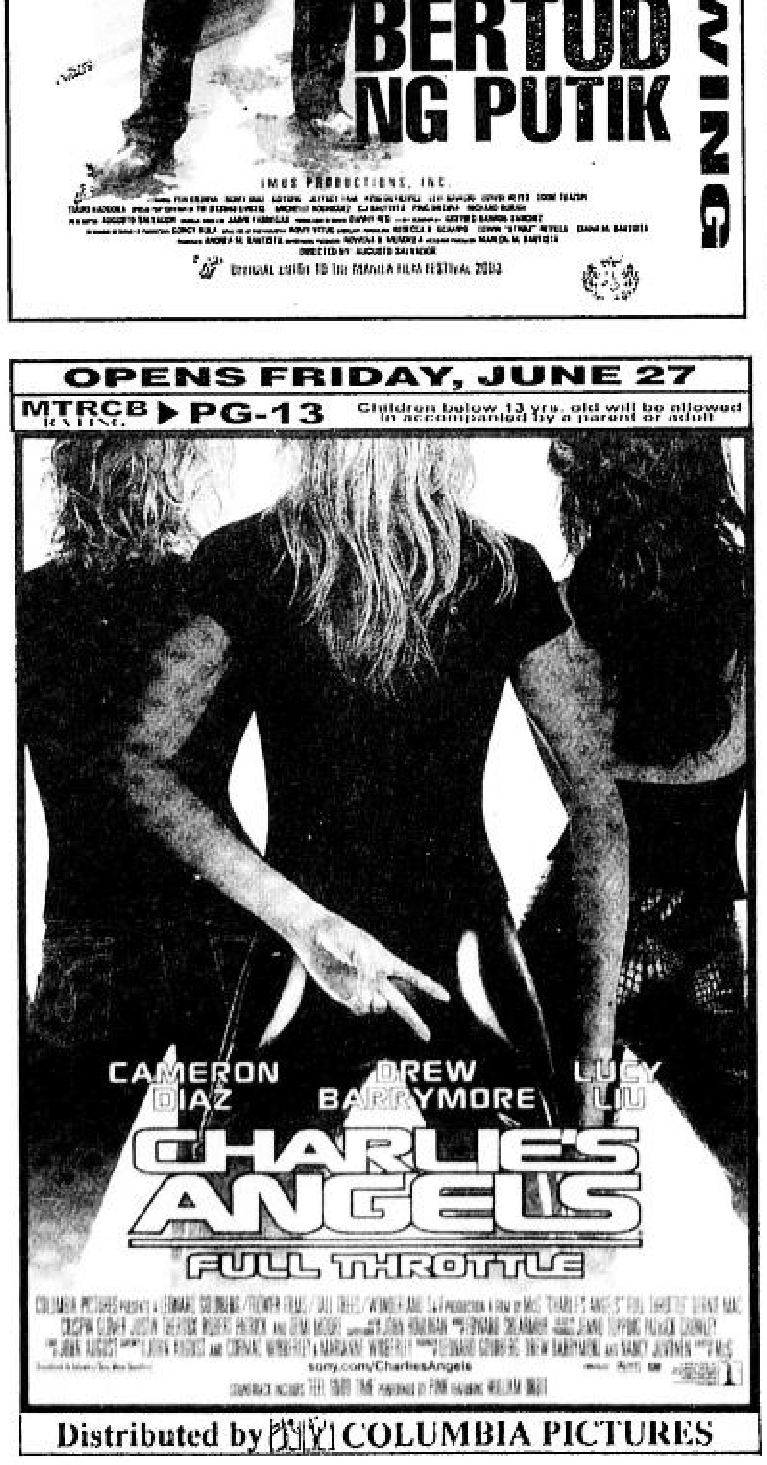

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TUGUEGARAO RACE
July 6, 2003 • 6:00 AM
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Rudy Ventura or Willy Mamba
Cagayan College (Main Building)
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Deadline for submission of entries: June 28
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July 13, 2003 • 6:00 AM
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Neil Barronda
Provincial Engineers Office
Provincial Capitol
(053) 321-2042
Deadline for submission of entries: July 5
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20-K Elimination ₱ 50
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Over [illegible] May trophies and medals pa para sa top ten finishers ng bawat category!
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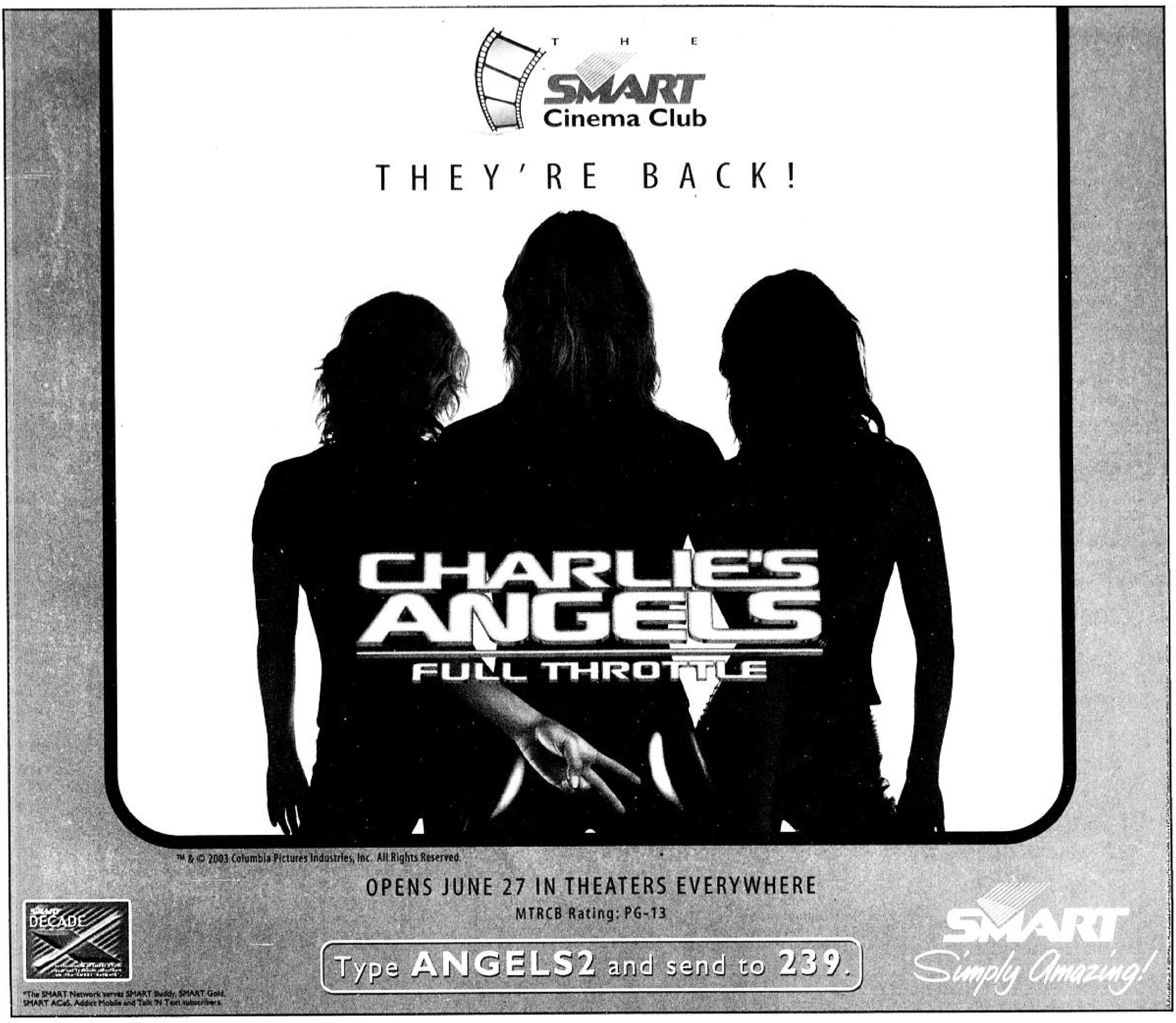
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CHARLIE'S ANGELS
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MTRCB Rating: PG-13
SMART DECADE
Type ANGELS2 and send to 239.
SMART
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2003 MANILA FILM FESTIVAL

The sound system was bad, but no one was embarrassed

By Marinel R. Cruz

IN LAST year's Manila Film Festival awards show, Megastar Sharon Cuneta stopped in the middle of her song and left the stage, thanks to a technical glitch. And host Dina Bonnevie was annoyed when her presenter son Oyo Boy Sotto was introduced as Piolo Pascual.

This year, the organizers of the 2003 Manila Film Festival (MFF) made sure no performers would go home humiliated or angry after the awards show last Thursday night. To make sure none of last year's embarrassing incidents were repeated, they moved the annual event from the Ninoy Aquino Stadium in Manila to the nearby two-year-old Aliw Theater.

But the new venue sounded like not a wise move at all because of Aliw's mediocre sound system. Hosts Edu Manzano and Judy Ann Santos and the presenters were hardly audible.

In the musical numbers, the one by couple Robert Seña and Isay Alvarez with Audi Gemora and Jenine Desiderio was the only live performance. Thanks to the sheer singing talent of the four performers, they were able to survive the sound system.

Still, the sound system was so bad that in the middle of the number, Seña was seen signaling someone off stage for better audio.

Most of the speakers in the theater were not working properly. This must be why Gary Valenciano's solo performance and the song-and-dance act of Keempee de Leon, Ciara Sotto, JM Rodgriguez and Kyla seemed lackluster.

The dance number that featured former Powerboy Geoff Rodriguez elicited oohs and aahs, but this was because he was dancing with the Viva Hot Babes—Andrea del Rosario, Maui Taylor, Katya Santos, Gwen Garci, Kristine Jaca, Nicola Jane, Hazel Cabrera and Jen Rosendhal.

Another hot babe, Patricia Javier wore a conservative cheongsam when she presented an award with "Operation Balikatan" star Rey Malonzo, but she later changed to very short shorts to do a number with the Sexbomb Dancers.

Armado Goyena, last seen in 2001's Chito Roño's "Yamashita: The Tiger's Treasure," accepted a lifetime achievement award. His son, TV host Johnny Revilla, escorted him to the stage.

The audience also honored Goyena with a standing ovation.

Although Bebong Osorio's "Alab ng Lahi" did not fare well at the box-office and failed to win any of its 12 nominations, Robin Padilla was still a winner to many people, who welcomed him with shrieks and screams.

Joel Lamangan's "Huling Birhen sa Lupa" was the biggest winner, bringing home nine out of the 16 awards.

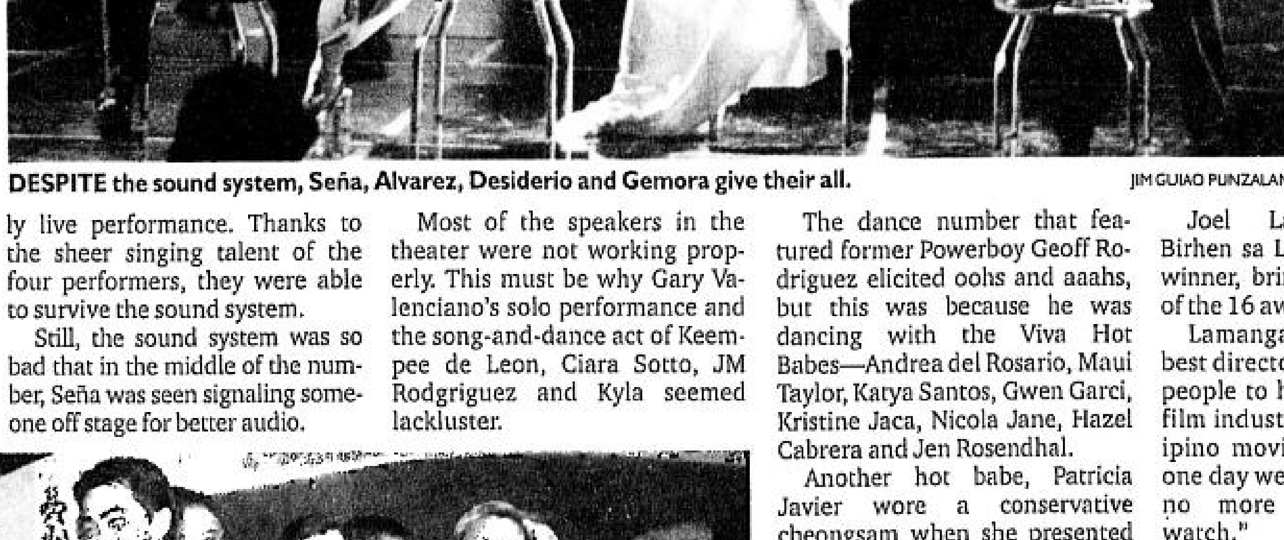
Lamangan, in accepting his best director award, appealed to people to help save the "dying" film industry by patronizing Filipino movies: "My fear is that one day we will all wake up with no more Filipino films to watch."

Best actress winner Ara Mina (for "Huling Birhen") dedicated her award to her co-star Maui Taylor, her mother Marie Frances Clenk, and to "the one who inspires me."

Ara Mina is said to be the girlfriend of Jomari Yllana, whose marriage to Aiko Melendez has just been annulled. "I work hard to improve my craft because of you," Ara Mina said to her inspiration.

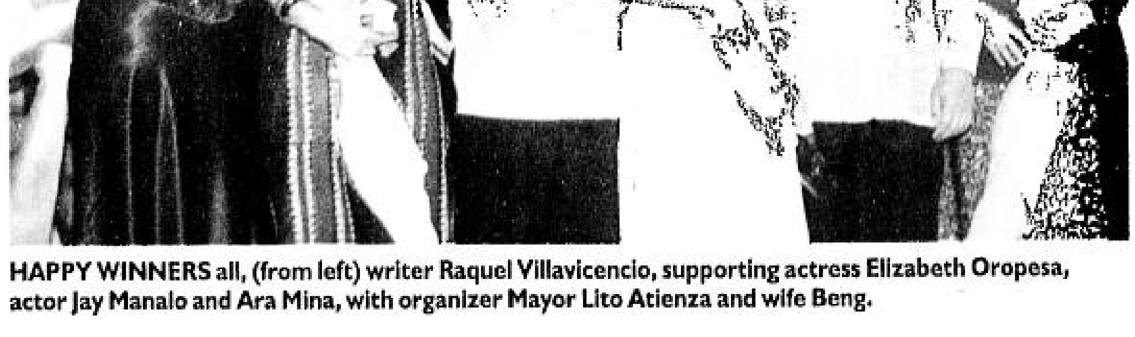
In awards that did not have anything to do with the participating movies, the MFF picked Gary V as "Man of the Night" and Goyena's granddaughter Bianca Araneta as "Woman of the Night."

Lamangan fears day 'with no more Filipino films'


DESPITE the sound system, Seña, Alvarez, Desiderio and Gemora give their all.
JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

VIVA Hot Babes fire up the show.

ORIGINAL matinee idol Armando Goyena is honored.


HAPPY WINNERS all, (from left) writer Raquel Villavicencio, supporting actress Elizabeth Oropesa, actor Jay Manalo and Ara Mina, with organizer Mayor Lito Atienza and wife Beng.

SEX BOMB Patricia Javier backed by the Sexbomb Dancers.

'Himig Handog' now open to Pinoys worldwide

THE PREVIOUS editions of the songwriting competition "Himig Handog Love Songs" gave the grand prize winner P500,000. This year, the multi-media contest not only raises the prize, it also goes global, with entries accepted from Filipinos in other parts of the world.

ABS-CBN will launch today the fourth "Himig Handog Love Songs" on the network's noontime show, "Asap Mania."

The contest is open to all professional and amateur songwriters. Screenings will also be done in foreign cities where ABS-CBN's The Filipino Channel (TFC) is seen—San Francisco, in the Middle East, Australia, and in Milan, where TFC will be launched in October. There will also be regional screenings in Baguio, Cebu and Davao.

Last year, "Himig Handog Love Songs" attracted more than 3,000 entries, according to ABS-CBN executive **Domi Espejo**.

The song finalists will be guaranteed extensive airplay nationwide as well as worldwide, "not just on TV, but also in recording, radio, film and cable," says Espejo.

According to "Himig Handog Love Songs" 2001 winner **Jonathan Manalo**, who is a Star Records artist and repertoire (A & R) consultant, last year's "Himig Handog Love Songs" album became a platinum seller, a first for a songwriting festival album.

The 2001 album contains the **Soc Villanueva** composition, "Kung Ako na Lang Sana," now a hit by **Bituin Escalante** who was also adjudged best interpreter last year. The song is also the title theme of a forthcoming movie starring **Sharon Cuneta** and **Aga Muhlach**.

The album also includes "Love Has Come My Way," written by **Arnel Quinitio** and recorded by **Heart Evangelista**. It was used as one of the tracks in the "Tanging Ina" soundtrack, as well as in TV shows like "Berks" and "Arriba, Arriba." The song will also be the carrier track of Heart's debut album from Star Records to be released next month.

"That song started my singing career," Heart says. "My bosses never really thought I could sing, but they discovered that other side of me after I agreed to interpret 'Love Has Come My Way.' Now, they even gave me an album."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

Piolo Pascual recorded **Arnold Reyes'** "Kung Ako Ba Siya," which is now being played on ABS-CBN soap operas.

"Hindi na Bale" by **Jimmy Antiporda**, was recorded by **Jessa** in her solo album for Star Records.

"Hanggang," penned by **Roni** and **Gigi Cordero** and recorded by **Wency Cornejo**, became known as the theme of Star Cinema's Urian best picture winner, "Dekada '70."

Deadline for the submission of entries is Aug. 15.

The finals will be in February 2004. In November, Star Records will release the 10 song finalists in an album.

The finalists will each receive P50,000, according to Espejo.

The grand prize winner will get P200,000, plus an Asian "love cruise" and a romantic gift showcase.

PG-13 for 'Amen'

"AMEN," **Constantin Costa-Gavras'** film questioning the role of **Pius XII** in the Holocaust, will finally be shown on June 25, 8 p.m. at The Podium.

"Amen" is part of the French Film Festival.

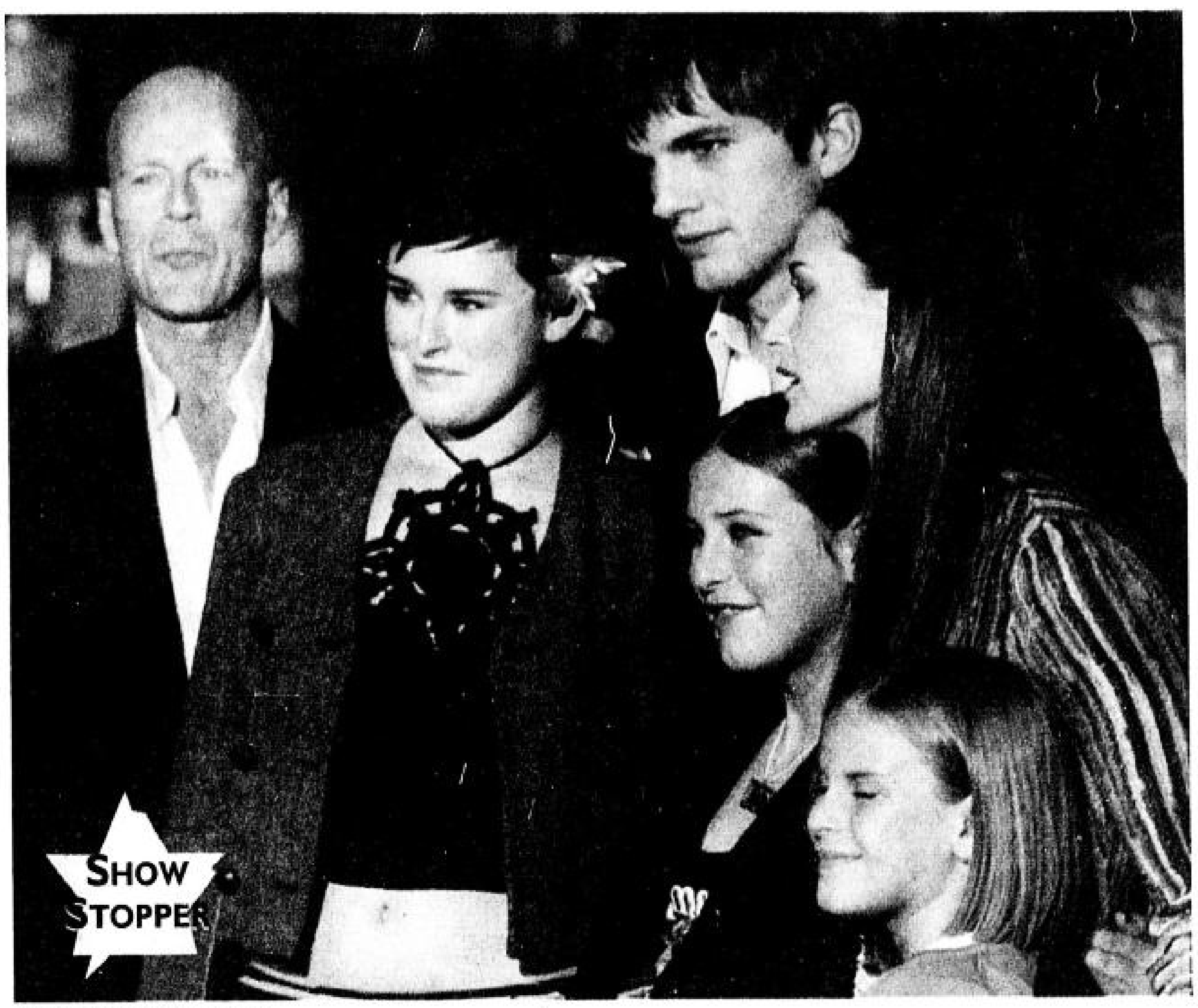
It was initially feared that the film would be banned by the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board because of its sensitive plot. But "Amen" was given a PG-13 rating, restricting it to viewers 13 years old and above.

Geneva conference

ABS-CBN vice president for corporate and legal affairs **Maloli Espinosa-Manalastas** left last night for Geneva, Switzerland to attend the Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union Copyright conference.

The weeklong event sets policies for broadcasters' rights.

Maloli is the only Filipino in the conference.



ALL IN THE FAMILY
All together now, Demi Moore is joined by her loved ones—ex-husband Bruce Willis (extreme left), current squeeze Ashton Kutcher who is 25, and her and Bruce's daughters—at the Hollywood premiere of her new movie, "Charlie's Angels Full Throttle."
REUTERS

PRINCE VS DEMI'S BOY
People Magazine's June 30 issue, with two alternative covers, releases its list of the 25 hottest bachelors but is leaving the top spot open to an online vote. Competing for the No. 1 spot are Prince William (left) and actor Ashton Kutcher (see photo at right).
AP

People
25 HOTTEST BACHELORS!
WHO'S NUMBER 1?
Prince William (he's 21 now) or Ashton Kutcher?
Cast your vote
People
25 HOTTEST BACHELORS!
WHO'S NUMBER 1?
Ashton Kutcher or Prince William (he's 21 now)?
Cast your vote

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Earn points for every Charlie's Angels Full Throttle ringtones/polytones, logos, picture messages, and MMS images you download. The more points you earn, the greater your chances of winning.

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Independent Women - MOVIE1THEME
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U Can't Touch This - CANTTOUCHDIS
My Sharona - MYSHARONA
Last Dance - LASTDANCE
I Will Survive - IWILLSURVIVE
I'm Coming Out - COMINGOUT
I Love The Nightlife - ILUVDNIGHT
The Hustle - HUSTLE

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Road Cyclone Game

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2604. Series of 2003.

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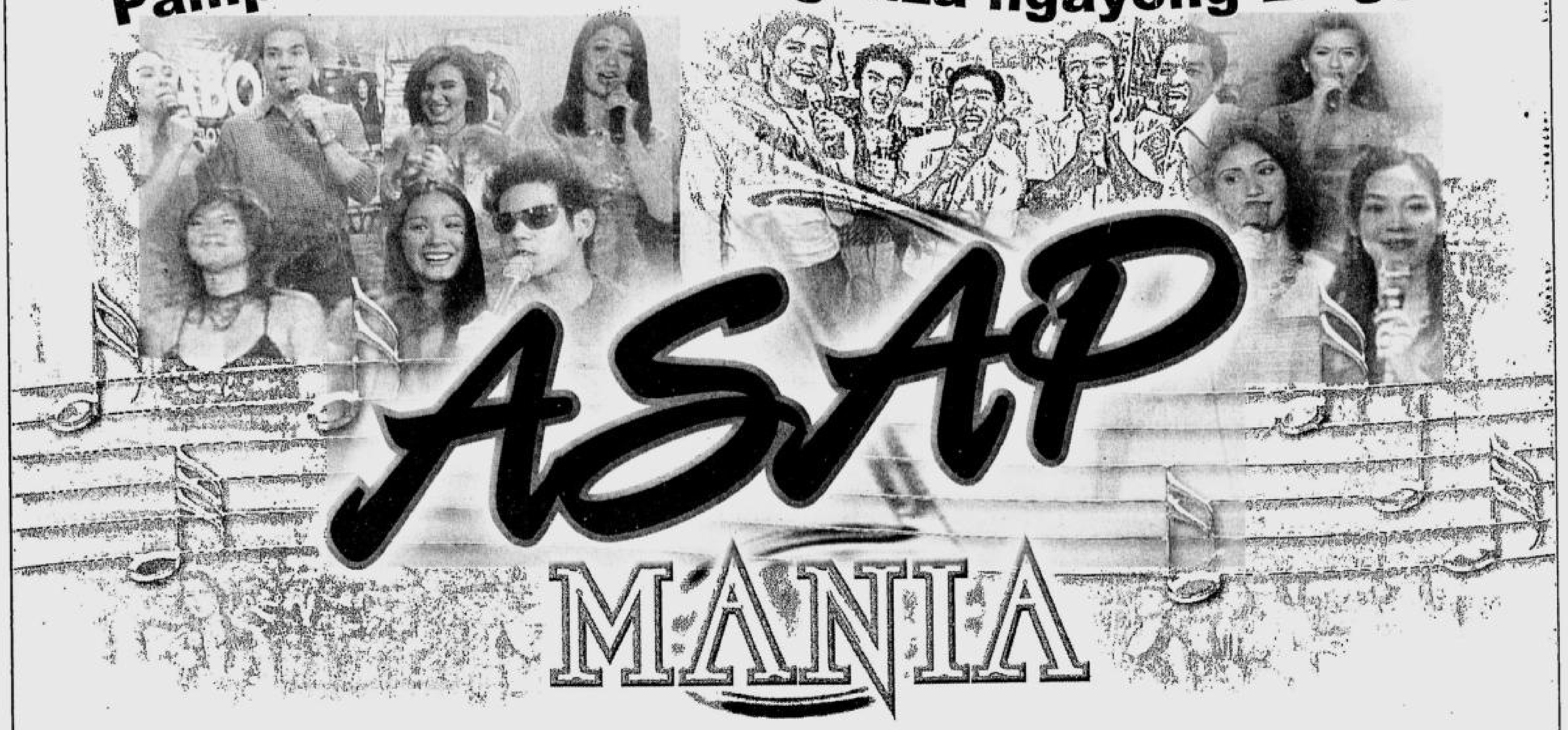

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Babalik-balikan. Tiyak na di pagsasawaan.
11:30am

Kapamilya sa Drama!

TABING ILOG
Malalaman na ni Rovic ang sikreto ni Eds.
After A.S.A.P. MANIA

Kapamilya sa Chikahan!

THE BUZZ
Magsasalita na ang babaeng pinakamamahal ni *Piolo Pascual.*
After TABING ILOG

Kapamilya sa Kantahan!

SHARON
The mega pays tribute to *Willy Cruz* and his music.
After THE BUZZ

Kapamilya sa Katatakutan!

WANSAPANATAYM
Balak gawing pulutan ng mag-inang maysa-pusa ang buong barangay.
Angelene Aguilar, Anim-e & Sharmaine Suarez star.
After SHARON

Kapamilya sa Katatawanan!

HOME ALONG DA RILES
Sa pula! Sa puti! Saan kakampi ang mga Kosme?
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MCA Universal 100-percent foreign

SABIDO

SHOW TIME

MCA UNIVERSAL is now a 100-percent foreign-owned music company of Universal Music International, according to Harry Hui, president of Universal Music Southeast Asia.

Hui also announced the appointment of Asian music veteran Teddy Sabido as MCA Universal's new managing director effect June 1.

Sabido was educated in the Philippines and Thailand.

Before his appointment, Sabido held management and marketing positions in the music industry in Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines.

Universal Music International is a division of Universal Music Group, which has wholly owned record operations or licensees around the world.

Universal Music International's businesses also include Universal Publishing Group, one of the industry's largest global music publishing operations.

Universal Music Group consists of record labels Decca Record, Deutsche Grammophon, Interscope Geffen A&M Records, Island Def Jam Music Group, Lost Highway Records, MCA Nashville, MCA Records' Mercury Records, Motown Records, Philips, Polydor, Universal Records and Verve Music Group, as well as record labels owned or distributed by its record company subsidiaries around the world.

Universal Music Group is a unit of Vivendi, a global media and communications company.

Christine Jacob on being a mom

CELEBRITY mom Christine Jacob talks about mothering as she appears on "CElebrityDATcom," on Thursday, June 26, 9:30 p.m.

The former champion swimmer, who became a TV host, tells host Angelu de Leon of her experiences in bringing up her son and daughter.

Christine, married to former swimmer Paco Sandejas, is expecting a third baby.

Bands in concert at Shangri-La Plaza Mall

SHANGRI-LA Plaza Mall will treat shoppers to a special post-Father's Day celebration concert today at the Grand Atrium on the 2nd level. The celebration also caps the mall's weeklong Father's Day Sale.

Daddies, their families and friends can swing to the beat of the bands Piña Colada and Ntwine, which is Viva Records' newest group artist. The bands will do Latin, pop, soul and R&B from the '70s through the present.

The show starts at 6 p.m. Admission is free. For inquiries, call 636-7851.

US stars to attend Makati's Cinemanila

From page C1

Aguiluz VI.

Schneider is star of the hit comedies "Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo," "The Animal" and "The Hot Chick."

Devlin is the producer of blockbusters like "The Patriot," "Independence Day" and "Godzilla." He has worked with such stars as Val Kilmer, Jeff Goldblum, Joan Cusack, Matthew Broderick, James Earl Jones and director Cameron Crowe.

Phillips starred in "The Big Hit," "Bats," "La Bamba," and with A-list actors Denzel Washington and Meg Ryan in "Courage Under Fire."

Carrere has more than 40 movies to her name and is also in the hit US TV series "Relic Hunter."

Friedman is the highest-ranking Filipino-American executive in the US entertainment industry, as senior vice president of worldwide publicity for Columbia TriStar Home Video, the video distribution arm of Sony Corp., owner of Columbia Pictures, TriStar Pictures, Sony Picture Classics and Sony Music.

Also expected to grace the festival is Fil-Am director Gene Cajayon. His feature film "The Debut" is the first Fil-Am movie released by Sony Pictures and will be shown for the first time in the Philippines as the opening film of the festival.

The movie depicts the experience of a Filipino growing up in America, through the eyes of a young, whitewashed Filipino-American who is reacquainted with his ethnic culture while dealing with both a tradition-minded father and a romantic infatuation with a white classmate.

Hailed as the best feature film at the Hawaii International Film Festival and the San Diego Asian Film Festival, "The Debut" also won the best independent feature at the Ammy Awards, which honors Asian and Asian Americans in film and television.

It was also given a "thumbs-up" by renowned film critic Roger Ebert who praised it for being the first of its kind about the Filipino-American ethnic community. The all-star cast is composed of the Basco brothers—Dante, Dion, Darion and Derek.

Filipino veteran actors in the cast include Eddie Garcia, Tirso Cruz III, Gina Alajar and Fe de los Reyes.

The 5th Makati Cinemanila International Film Festival is scheduled to run from Aug. 7 to 24 at the Greenbelt Cinemas in Makati City.

Marinel R. Cruz

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THE HULK PG13 11:45,2:45, 5:45,8:45	BRUCE ALMIGHTY PG13 1:00,3:10,5:20, 7:30,9:40	THE HULK PG13 1:30,4:30, 7:30,10:30

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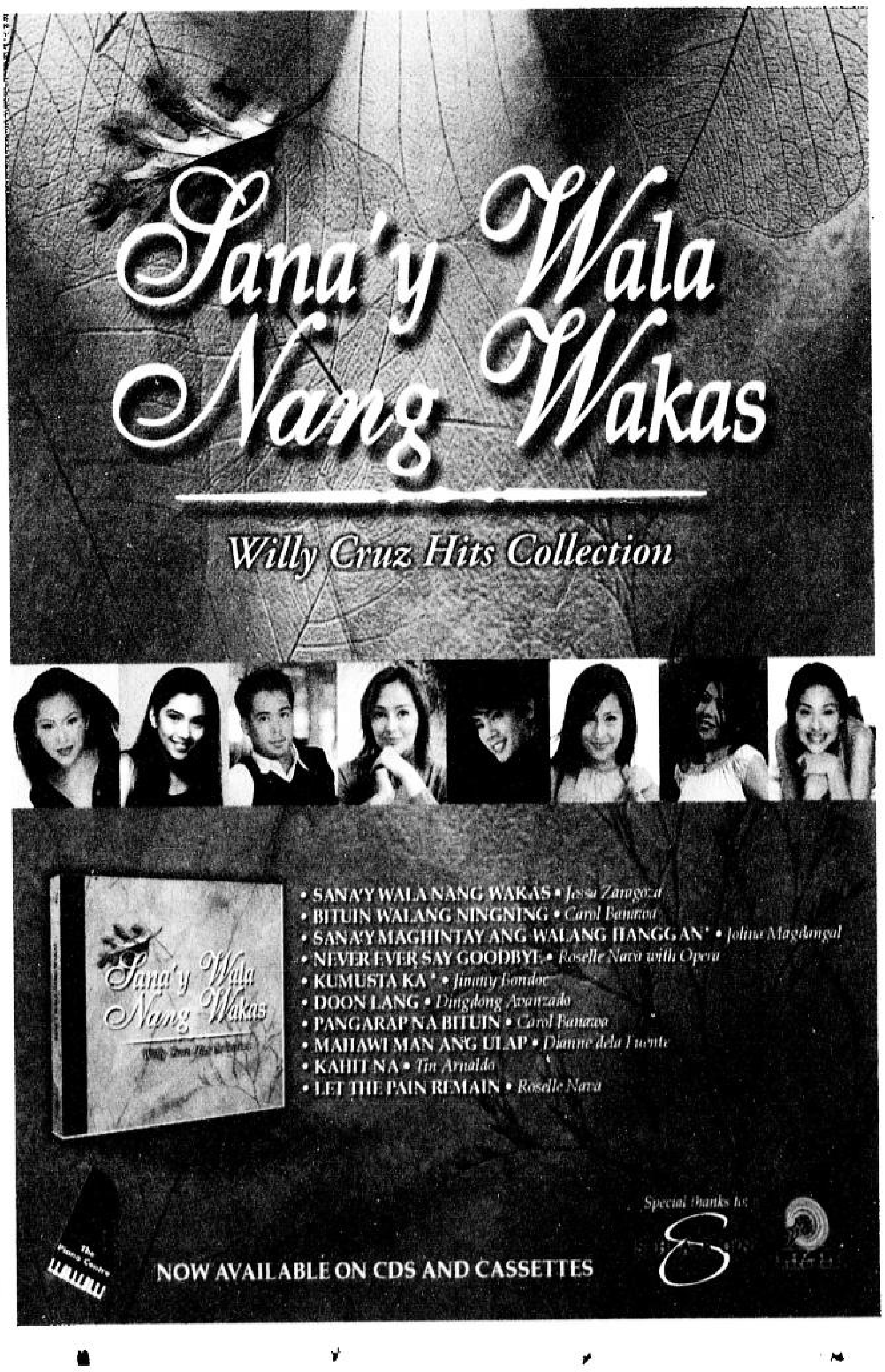
OPENS JULY 2



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Willy Cruz Hits Collection

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- SANA'Y MAGHINTAY ANG WALANG HANGGAN • Jolina Magdangal
- NEVER EVER SAY GOODBYE • Roselle Nava with Opera
- KUMUSTA KA • Jimmy Bondoc
- DOON LANG • Dingdong Avanzado
- PANGARAP NA BITUIN • Carol Banawa
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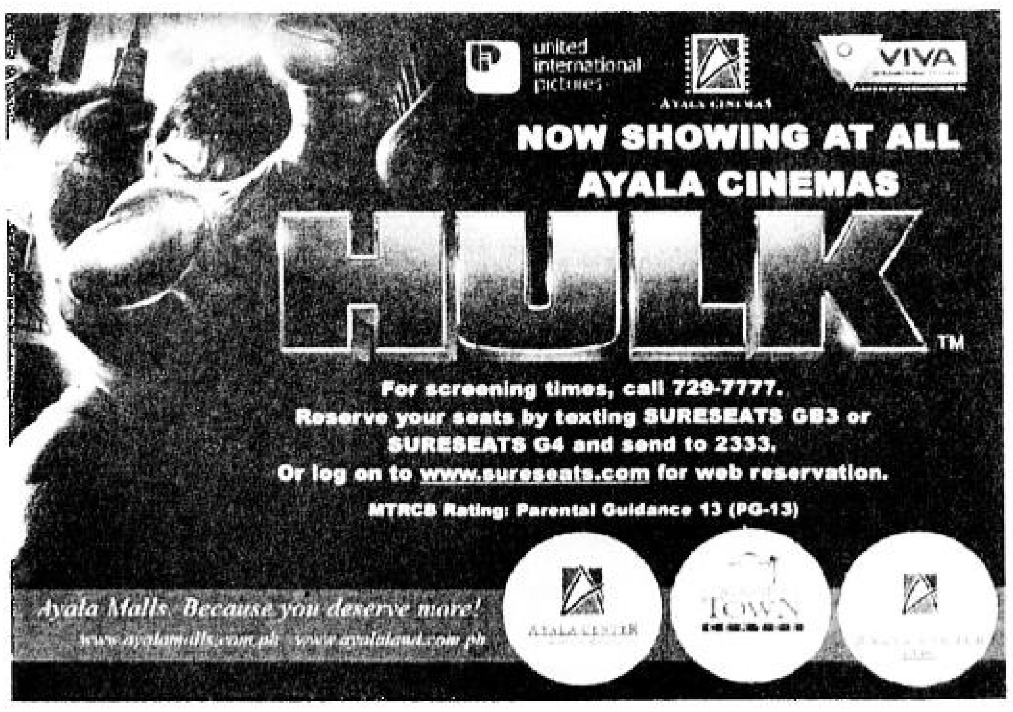

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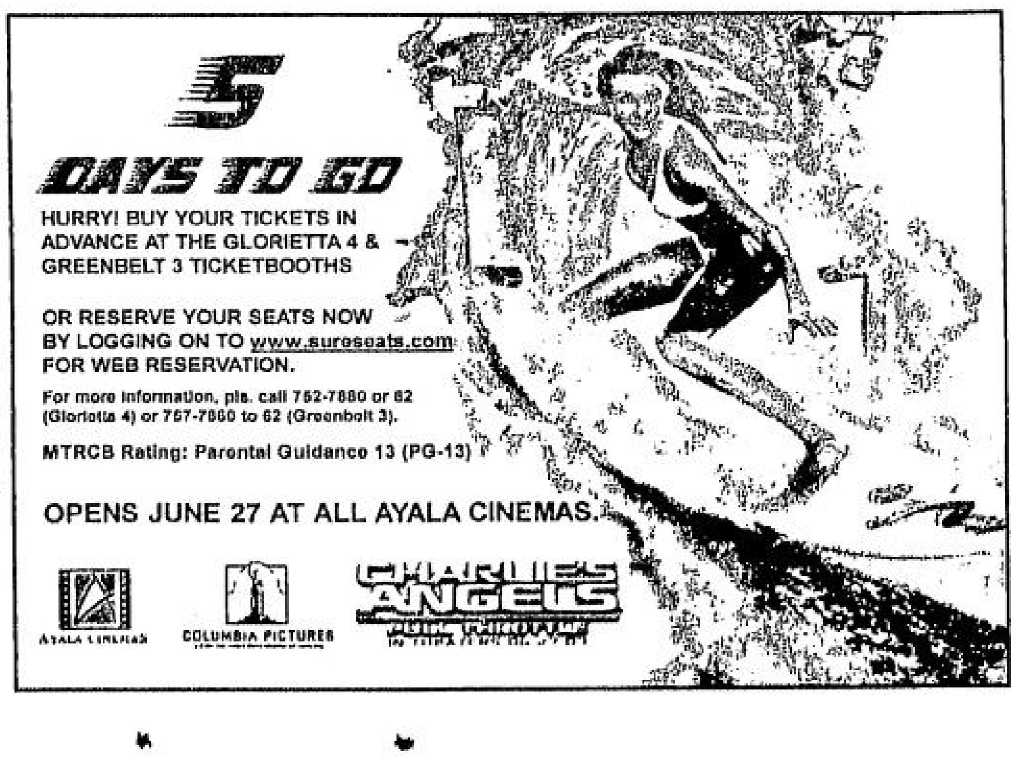

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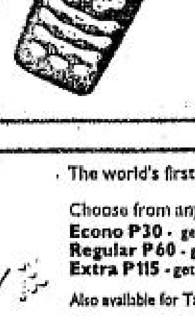

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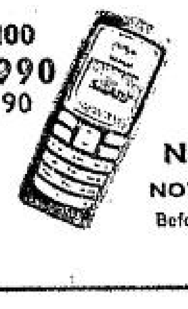

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1533, Series of 2003.

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Promo period: June 12 - 30, 2003. See flyers for details.

*The SMART Network serves SMART Buddy, SMART Gold, SMART AceS, Addict Mobile and Talk 'N Text subscribers.

Sunday LifeStyle

PRINCE William smiles during a visit to the opening of Pilot Project in Newport.

Royal coming of age

Prince William turns 21 but remains the reluctant heir to the English throne

BLOWING out the candles on a birthday cake given to him during a visit to the Anglesey Food Fair

LONDON—William, the elder son of Prince Charles and Princess Diana who celebrated his 21st birthday yesterday, seems to prefer an anonymous, ordinary-life to the role of pretender to the throne that his family want to see him play.

Handsome and photogenic, bearing a striking resemblance to his mother, the prince appears to offer the best chance of survival to a monarchy lacking in glamour and rocked by scandals for 15 years. But he seems reluctant to take on a destiny made up of privilege and duty.

Next in line

William is second in line to the throne after his father, and to celebrate his coming of age, a series of stamps bearing his picture went on sale this week.

Nearly 300 guests joined him on Saturday for a costume ball with the theme "Out of Africa" at Windsor Castle, one of Queen Elizabeth II's residences west of London.

But nothing is expected to change in his daily life: The prince still refuses to use the title "Royal Highness" to which he has the right, along with all the other titles that his father had inherited at 21.

He will pursue his studies at St. Andrews University in Scotland, where he has for the last two years tried to live as discreetly as possible. Under an agreement reached with Prince Charles, the media agreed to respect his private life during his studies.

Unlike his father at the same age, William refuses to be served by a valet or chauffeur. He shares a flat with three students, does his own shopping at the supermarket, wears jeans and pullovers with holes in them, and likes to meet his friends over a cider in the pub.

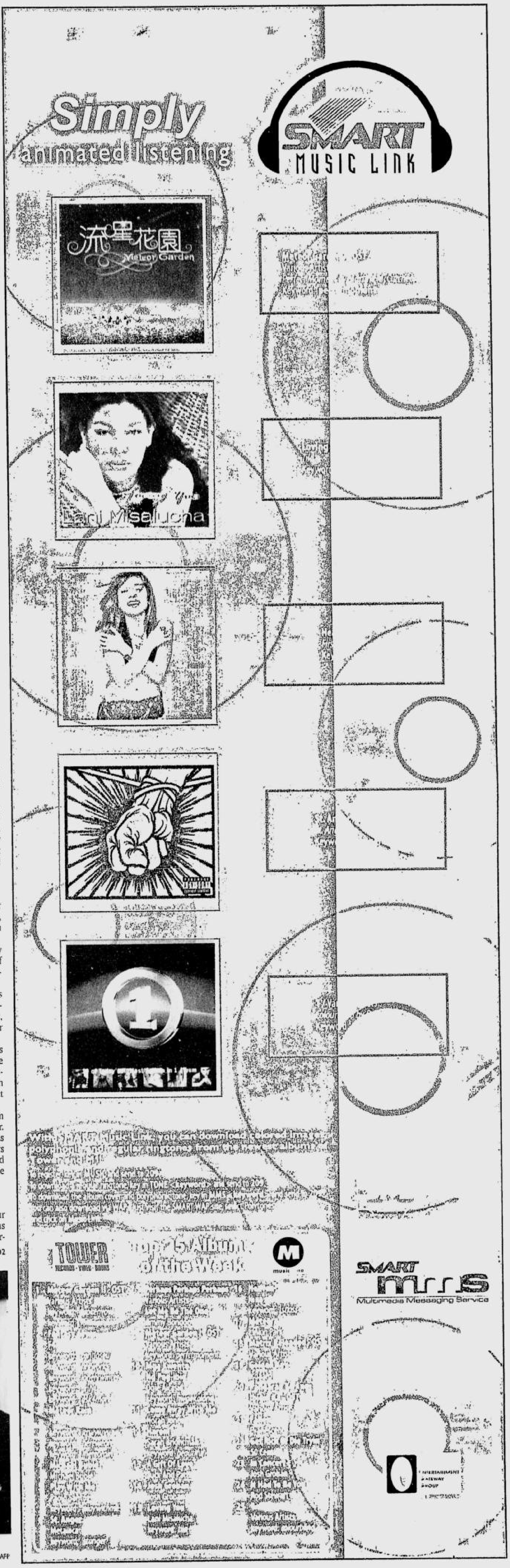
Less rigid

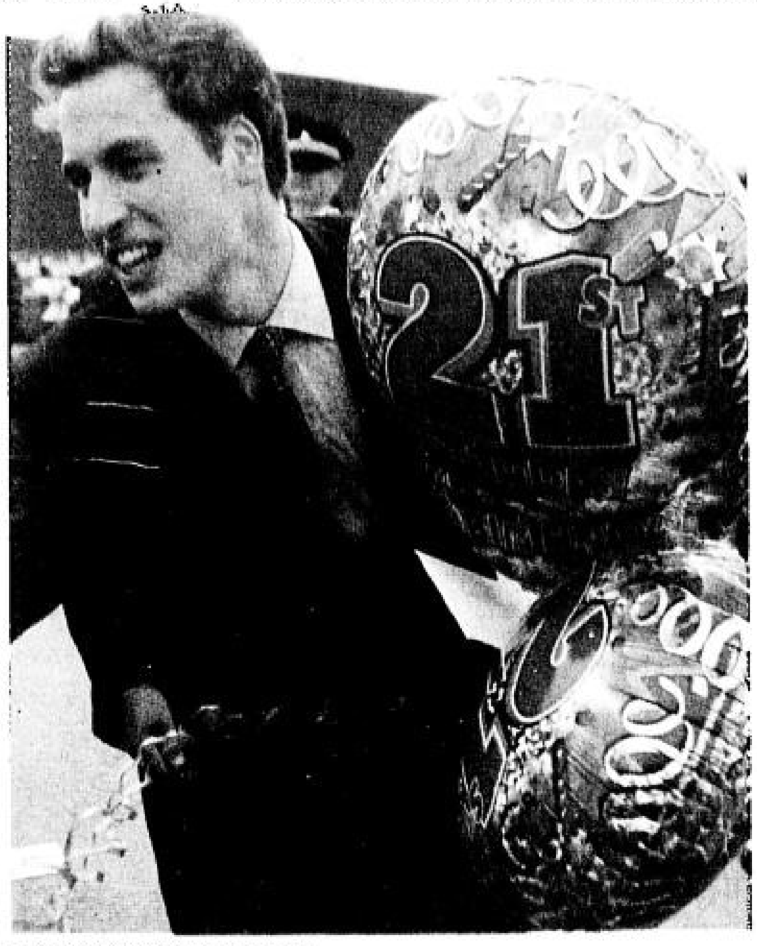
Born on June 21, 1982, William Arthur Philip Louis Wales had an education that was a little less rigid—all things remaining in per-

ROYAL/D2

DRINKING beer with his father, The Prince of Wales, at the Anglesey Agricultural center

PHOTOS BY REUTERS, AP AND AFP





HOLDING birthday balloons

WITH brother Prince Harry, Princess Anne, Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh, acknowledging the crowds from the balcony of Buckingham Palace during the annual Trooping the Colour Parade held to mark the Queen's 77th birthday in London.

TRYING his hand at cooking under the guidance of chef Melfyn Thomas

Royal coming of age

ARRIVING with brother Prince Harry for the annual Trooping the Colour Parade.

From page D1

spective— than other royal children.

There were no tutors but private nursery and primary schools, then the posh Eton boarding school, mould of the British aristocracy.

His mother always tried to give him an insight into life outside the gilded palaces, with occasional excursions to McDonald's or the cinema.

An athletic 1.90-meter (6'3") tall, William inherited from his father his love of outdoor sports like hunting and polo.

But his life has not been easy, with widely reported spats between his parents until their divorce in 1996, and especially the horrendous loss of his mother in a Paris car crash in August 1997.

He has had a particularly intimate relationship with his brother Harry, toward whom he is fiercely protective. But he also shows a deep aversion to the media, which he holds responsible for his mother's death.

Reluctance

This could be one of the reasons for his reluctance to play the public role that Queen Elizabeth and her courtiers would love to see him take on.

According to sources close to the royal family quoted in the press, Prince Charles himself does not in any way encourage William to come out of the shadows, fearing he might be eclipsed by his son as he was earlier by his wife.

It is anyone's guess what William will do once he has graduated in two years. Barring an abdication by the queen in his favor, he will have to cool his heels for decades before becoming king. Some rumors have it he might take up an army career.

Others go so far as to say he might leave the kingdom to give himself a break from the gutter press and continue his studies in the United States or get involved with a humanitarian operation in Africa.

AFP

GIRLS try to catch a glimpse of Prince William as he visits the opening of Pilot Project.

LAUGHING as he mixes a set of decks with DJ Floyd during a visit to the opening of Pilot Project

---

The Experts Speak Up!

Raymond G. Belmonte, MD, FPSOHNS
Chairman -- Department of Ear, Nose and Throat, Head and Neck Surgery; St. Martin de Porres Charity Hospital
Consultant -- St. Luke's Medical Center; University of Santo Tomas Hospital; Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital; The Medical City; Delos Santos Medical Center

It's a QUESTION of HEALTH

The Doctor's Response to Your ENT Inquiries

"In all affairs, it's a healthy thing now and then to hang a question mark on the things you have long taken for granted," thus said the great philosopher Bertrand Russel. We are often faced with questions and problems about our body and well being that demand solution and thought, most often because they may lead to more serious problems. At times, questions are raised to exhaust curiosity, or sometimes even, to find justifiable means to avoid and prevent problems from happening. The ears, nose, and throat, are among the usual concerns brought to the attention of medical specialists. Read on to know some of the common ENT questions asked and their answers.

What may increase the chances of contracting sore throat ?

Sore throat is most common among school children between the ages of 4 and 11. Coming in contact with anyone who has the ailment also increases the chances of being infected. The risk of having a sore throat is also great if one is immunocompromised (diabetics, malnourished, etc.), that is why taking care of one's health by getting enough exercise and rest, having good eating habits, and maintaining proper hygiene are important factors to be able to stand up against sore throat. Smokers are also more exposed to throat infections than non-smokers.

What are the reasons to have tonsil removal or tonsillectomy?

Tonsillectomy, or the surgical removal of the tonsils, may be necessary to avoid complications and recurring sore throat problems. Severe and frequent tonsillitis in children may result to fatigue, poor weight gain, and difficulty in breathing, and swallowing.

Surgical removal is recommended when one has the following: severe snoring causing sleep apnea (breathing stops while sleeping), difficulty swallowing and breathing, tonsil growth and/or bleeding, and abscess formation within the tonsil area. Surgery is also an option when one has repeated bouts of tonsil infections (7 episodes/year for 1 year; 5 episodes/year for 2 consecutive years; 3 episodes/year for 3 consecutive years).

When should hoarseness be a concern?

A breathy, scratchy, and coarse voice signals a problem in the vocal cords. There are a variety of reasons for hoarseness, and in most cases, it can be treated with sufficient voice rest and hydration. Drink plenty of water. However, hoarseness that has been present for more than two weeks should warrant consultation with an ENT doctor.

A specialist's evaluation is also recommended when hoarseness is accompanied by difficulty in breathing and swallowing.

How can snoring be treated?

Snoring is usually remedied by changes in lifestyle, particularly through maintenance of proper weight. This can be achieved by eating a well balanced diet and getting regular exercise. One should also limit alcohol and sedative intake. It is important to treat nasal infections that can cause snoring. The use of an oral antiseptic can help control tonsil infections, which can lead to enlarged tonsils that cause snoring. Seek advice from your ENT doctor to determine the cause of your snoring and the best treatment option.

How do you keep your voice healthy?

The human voice is produced by a unique sound-producing mechanism in the throat area. To keep it healthy, one must observe the basic health guidelines such as drinking the recommended 8 glasses of water daily, and avoiding caffeine and alcohol. Smoking should be stopped, and voice abuse like screaming and yelling should be avoided. Keeping the throat in condition by regular use of an oral antiseptic is essential.

PHILIPPINE SOCIETY OF
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OTOLARYNGOLOGY HEAD AND NECK SURGERY

A health update from the throat care experts, PSO-HNS and Bactidol.

Hexetidine
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Pioneering

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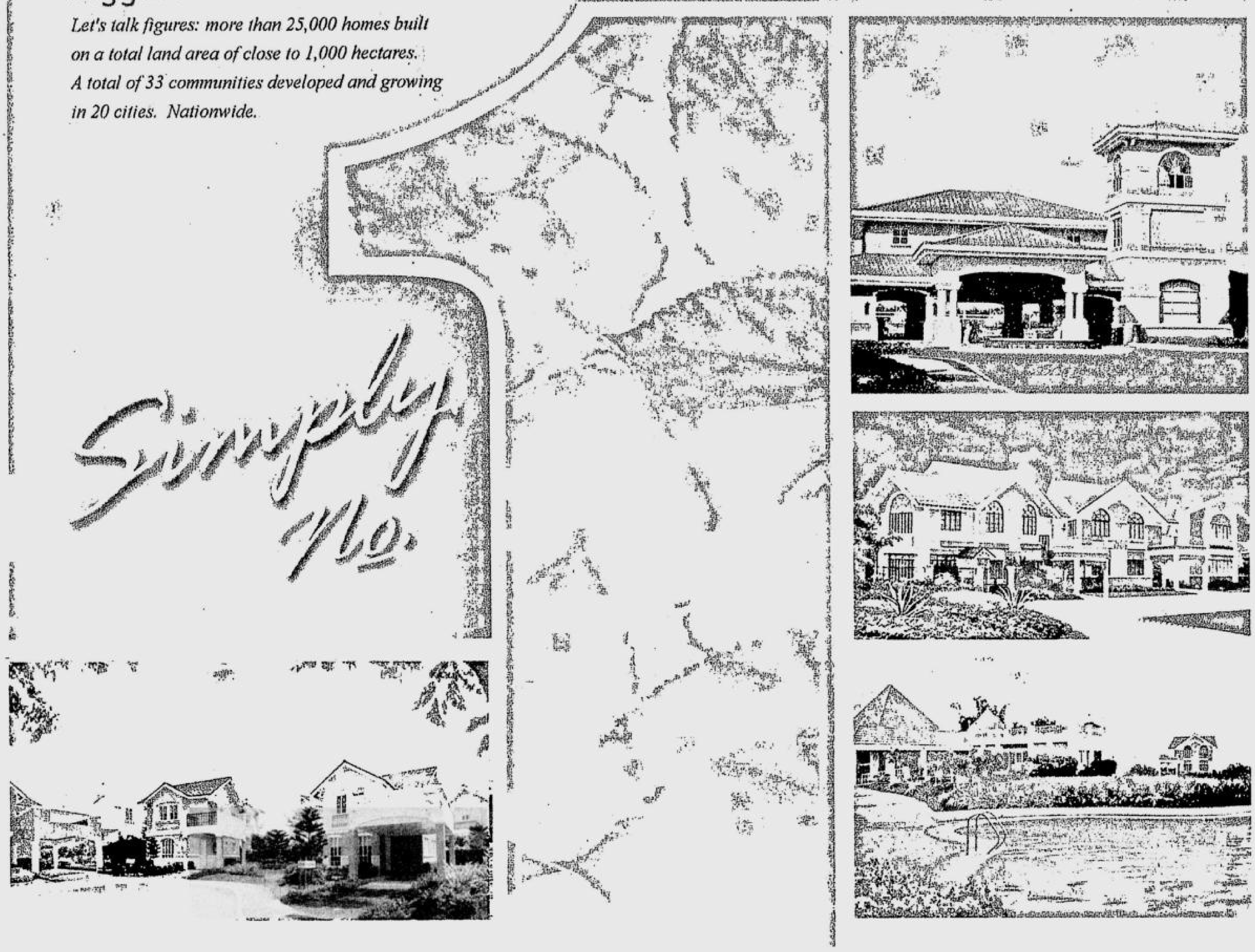

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Cottonwood Heights

VIA ALABANG

Centerville

The Meadows

IN CAVITE

Citta Italia

[illegible]

IN LAGUNA

Fortezza

La Marea

IN BATANGAS

[illegible]

IN PANGASINAN

Wedgewood Heights

IN CEBU

Milan

IN ILOILO

Savannah

IN DAVAO

Solariega

IN CAGAYAN DE ORO

Rivergrand

Alta Mira

Upcoming communities

IN QUEZON CITY

Mondrian

IN ANTIPOLO

The Peak of Mala Alta

IN SUCAT

Altadena

IN TAGUIG

Tiara

IN LAS PIÑAS

Beacon Place

IN CAVITE

Monte [illegible]

Montesito

IN LAGUNA

La Contessa

Monte Cielo

IN BATANGAS

Montabella

IN PAMPANGA

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IN DAVAO

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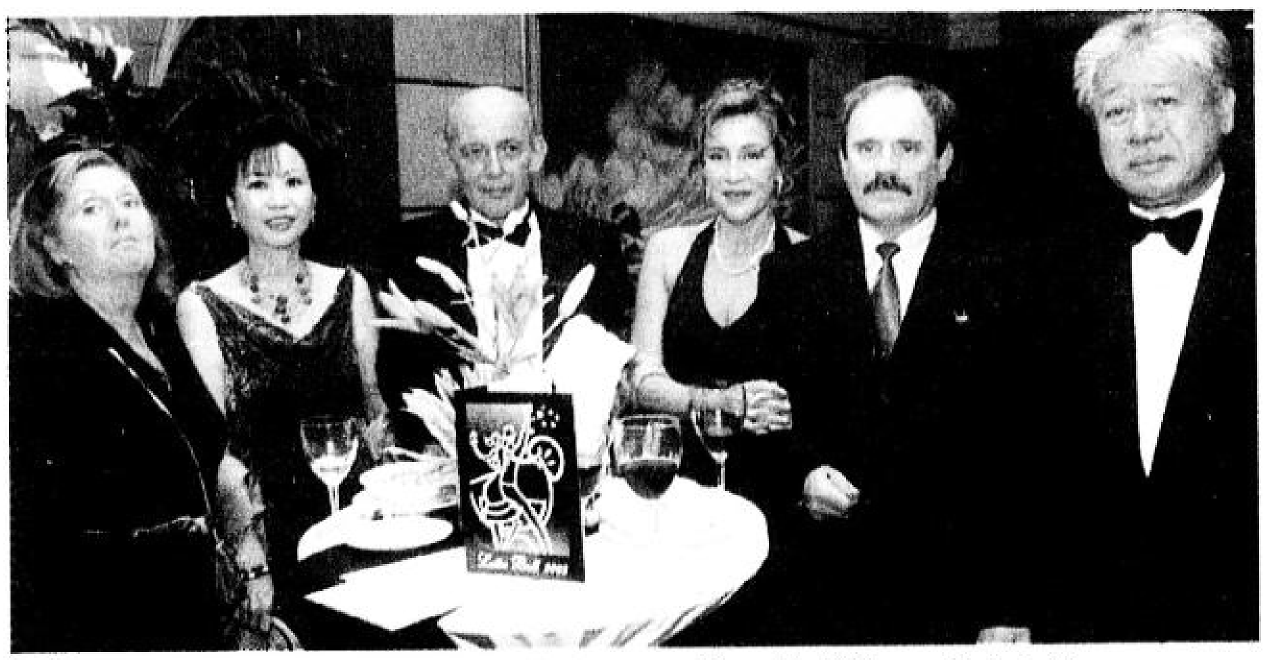

DULCE Guimaraes, Mercy de Asis, Marcos Bornalin, Carmen and Normelito Limberg and Jody de Asis

VALERIA Cue, president of Latin Ladies Club, with husband Francisco and Alicia and Horacio Ardiani

Fundraising with that Latin passion

THE LATIN Ladies Club of the Philippines held recently its annual charity ball at Makati Shangri-La Hotel to further its mission of finding ways to charitably support local institutions in need.

As the club's major fundraising event of the year, all proceeds will benefit various institutions and organizations in the Philippines. Over the years, the club's main beneficiary has been the Holy Family Home of Pembo, which provides shelter, education and spiritual guidance for street, neglected, orphaned and abused girls. Over 200 people and 20 corporate sponsors showed their support by donating generously to further the club's mission of giving back to the community.

The night began with a fun cocktail, and after an hour or so, it was on to the beautifully decorated salon.

As the first course was being served, Valeria Cue, president of the Latin Ladies Club, assisted by the master of ceremonies, Johnny Litton, welcomed the invited guests, among them several local and international dignitaries, and thanked them for their support of the group's endeavors. The emcee raffled off fantastic prizes including jewelry, international and domestic vacation packages, and some chic items of home decor, among others.

Onda Latina played salsa and pop and wound up with a group dance of the "Macarena" and "Asereje."

CRISTINA Feulner and Paula Keauge-Davis

JOSE Miguel and Constanza Menchaca

EMILIA and Miguel Ribas of Schering-Plough

BRIGIDA Schock and Emma de la Garza

hi ate joy!
pwede pabili
from NY? :)

PETER and Henrietta Dalinsay with Ricardo and Daniela Lozano

JAIME Augusto and Lizzie Zobel

VERONICA Galindo

JAMES and Gil Philip

ANTONIO and Angela Campos of Colgate-Palmolive

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Viva! Mineral Water's refreshing TVC

THE NEW Viva! Mineral Water campaign highlights the benefits of drinking natural mineral water and how minerals in water could help make our body healthy and fit, making it beautiful.

The campaign is spearheaded by a refreshing TV commercial that starts airing today in major channels.

The TV Shoot

Working on the TVC had everyone on their toes to wrap up a three-day weekend shoot. Painting three beautifully sculpted bodies (of three very much real sexy and buffed up models) took an average of 6 hours a day per model. Australian Director Trevor Hone was just too excited to work on the project because it's a first in the industry. Trevor and his assistant director, Kristine Blando (who happens to be a choreographer of the famed Hotlegs) did great in getting our three models posing, flexing and projecting really good for the camera.

Ace Saatchi & Saatchi's creative team headed by Creative Director Raoul Floresca was just too glad that finally we are seeing the storyboard come to life -- what, with all three beautiful bodies that come alive with the vibrant colors of body paint, what more can we visually ask for?

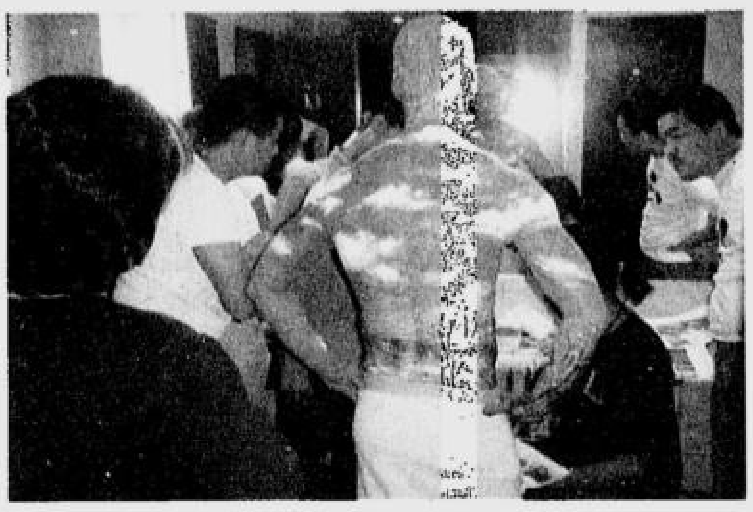
The Photo Shoot

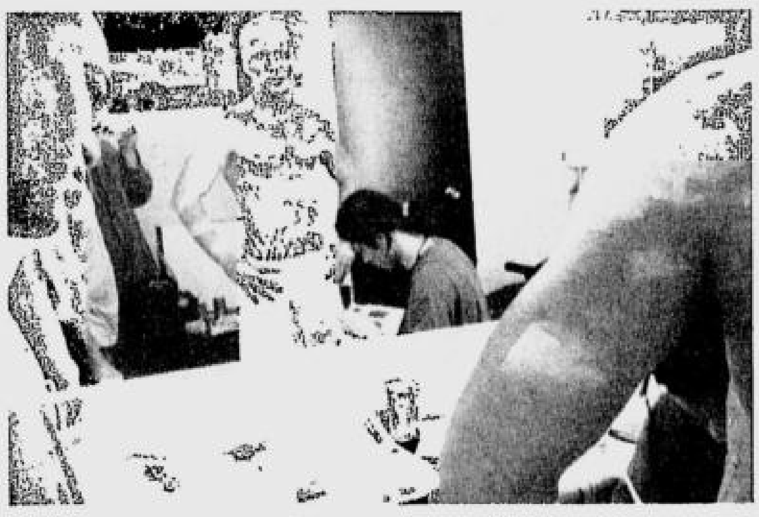
Fashion photographer Xander Angeles was on stand-by for two days, starts work with his camera around 7 in the evening. A few minutes after we all get to see the 'polas' (the polaroids) and you start hearing 'ooohs' and 'aaahs' and of how beautiful the images were. First thing the week after, then came the image files. Enough said.

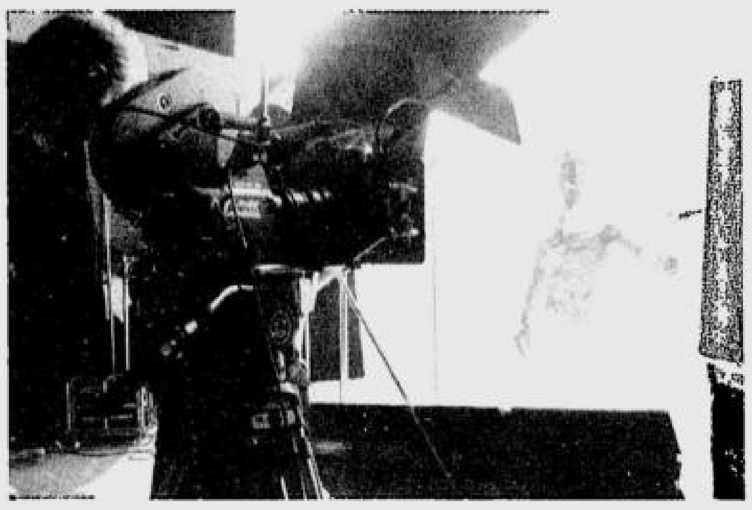
The Product

Early this year, Viva! Mineral Water was launched with its new look - the sexy, easy grip bottle that comes in portable and group sizes. The new bottle gave Viva! Mineral Water the active, young and vibrant look that fast became popular among its target market. Viva! Mineral Water is a quality product of The Coca-Cola Company and is available nationwide.

The new Viva! Mineral Water campaign. highlights the benefits of drinking natural mineral water and how minerals in water could help make our body healthy and fit, making it beautiful







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Filipina writes book on the Virgin of the Poor despite all odds

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

MILA Dolores, a devotee of the Virgin of the Poor, patroness of Banneux, Belgium, has finally been able to publish a book on the Virgin despite having no money.

How she did it could only be called a miracle. A publishing house which has its own printing press consented to print the book and accept payments on installment basis.

Why particularly the Virgin of the Poor? Mila's devotion to Our Lady began when she flew to Banneux in 1994 to volunteer for one month in the shrine of the Virgin. Fluent in French, Mila stayed and helped the nuns. She also translated documents from French into English relating to the eight apparitions of the Virgin in Banneux between Jan. 15 and March 2, 1933. It was the happiest month of her life.

When she came back, Mila began to gather information on the different churches and schools that carry the Virgin of the Poor as patroness. The Virgin of the Poor was brought to the Philippines via Claveria, Cagayan in 1958 by a German SVD missionary.

To commemorate the 70th anniversary of Our Lady's apparitions in Banneux, Mila sought to publish the book "The Virgin of the Poor: a tribute from her Filipino children."

Containing 208 colored pictures, it bears messages from the Archbishop of Manila and the Rector of the Banneux shrine.

Chapter 1 gives an account of the eight apparitions in 1933 which were recognized by the Bishop of Liege on Aug. 22, 1949. Our Lady's choice of scenario is everyday reality—night, winter, the house, the garden, the road, the water—all transfigured by the face of Mary.

She calls herself the "Virgin of the Poor"—for all nations, for the sick (Jan. 19); leads the visionary four times to the spring, symbol of Jesus, her Son; requests for a small chapel (Jan. 20); calls the people to faith (Feb. 15), asks repeatedly to "pray much" and ends her apparitions with "I am the Mother of the Saviour, Mother of God" (March 2).

Chapter 2 illustrates the rapid development of one of Belgium's national shrines, which was visited by Pope John Paul II on May 21, 1985.

Chapters 3 to 14 feature more than 100 Virgin of the Poor statues in the Philippines found in health care institutions, places for the needy and troubled, houses of worship, seminaries, convents, retreat houses, educational institutions, restaurants, public buildings and residences, as well as testimonies from Mary's Filipino children in Belgium, Brazil and the USA.

Some of the prayers and songs in Annexes 1 and 2 have been recorded by the Pink Sisters and Sisters of Mary Girlstown in an audiocassette tape entitled "Maria, Virgin of the Poor".

Annex 3 lists the statues by region.

Mila hopes that these images could be properly be identified to facilitate the spread of the devotion to Mary, Virgin of the Poor, as well as the establishment of parishes dedicated to Our Lady of Banneux in addition to the Parokya ng Ina ng mga Dukha in Taguig.

From 1958 to the 1980s, German missionaries were responsible for the statues placed in churches (mostly in Oriental Mindoro); in seminaries of the Society of Divine Word (SVD); and in schools (from Pampanga to Bukidnon), convents and hospitals by the Missionary Benedictine Sisters (OSB).

As provincial in the 1960s, Bishop Federico Escaler, SJ, announced to the Jesuits the availability of statues for their communities. The images in San Lazaro Hospital, National Center for Mental Health and St. Martin de Porres Outreach Center may be credited to Fr. Charles Prass, OMI, whose confrere, Fr. Richard Pommier, did the papier mache images in Cotabato.

A recipient of a Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur from the Chancery of the Archdiocese of Manila, Mila's book (ISBN 971-92714-0-X softbound, 158 p) is available at St. Paul's, Paulines, Catholic Trade, Christ the King Seminary Store, Center for Peace Asia and selected branches of National Book Store.

The book and audiocassette tape are sold at the Pink Sisters' Convent in Brent Road, Baguio City.

l'Eau Vive Restaurant (1499 PM Guazon, Paco, tel. 563-8558/59), where Mila used to dine before her sojourn in France, and Lecel Crafts (62 20th Avenue, Cubao, tel. 913-0250, 912-5275), likewise carry the tape as well as locally made statues of Our Lady of Banneux.

Remedios Jubilee mission exhibit

The Malate Church will open the Remedios Jubilee Mission Exhibit on June 29, feast of Sts. Peter and Paul, the same day that Fr. John Leydon will installed as parish priest.

The exhibit features popular symbols and their meanings: The Mother, the Child and the suffering Christ. The final section is about missions to and from the Philippines; about migration, overseas workers, and missionaries; and about the who, why and how of missions in a globalized world.

The exhibit also celebrates the coming of age of the Filipino Church. In their message, the Columbian priests who run the Malate Church says: "God did not arrive in the Philippines in 1565. God was already here. The story of mission goes back to the Good News as revealed in Jesus, but even earlier,since He is the "Word in whom all things were made."

The story of Creation reveals how God created all things, calling us to care for life and all that God has made, including earth, air, fire and water.

The exhibition reveals God's mission—His creation and redemption as seen from one window: the Philippines, in Malate in the beginning of the 21st century.

The public is invited to come and view this exhibit.

Mother Francisca del Espiritu Santo

The formal opening of the process for the beatification and canonization of the Servant of God Mother Francisca del Espiritu Santo, foundress of the Beaterio of the Sta. Cantelina de Siena, will be held on July 8, Tuesday, at 9 a.m., at the Sto. Domingo Church in Quezon City.

The new name of the order is Congregation of Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine of Siena. Presiding at the event are Jaime Cardinal Sin and Most Rev. Leonardo Legaspi of the Archdiocese of Caceres.

Francisa de Fuentes was born in Manila in 1647. Widowed and childless after a brief marriage, she dedicated herself to helping the sick, the needy and the young.

In 1682, she received the habit of a Dominican tertiary. She was joined by a small group and a family of religious founded in the Philippines. Final approval for her group came later, but those were difficult years. Francisca persevered and chose the name Francisca del Espiritu Santo.

The religious community she founded spent its time in prayer, mortification and serving others. On August 24, 1711, Mother Francisca died at age 63, bringing to a happy end a life of deep fidelity to God and leaving a legacy of service to the young, the sick and the poor.

Prayer for beatification

VIRGIN of the Poor at San Lazaro Hospital, Sta. Cruz, Manila

Mila Dolores' book celebrates the eight apparitions of Our Lady in Banneux, France 70 years ago

God Our Father, you are glorified in Your saints, for in their lives we see the crowning glory of Your gifts. We commend to you the life and example of Mother Francisca del Expiritu Santo. She responded wonderfully to Your grace by a life of holiness. As a woman of the Philippines, she drew herself close to You in her service of the young, the sick and the poor. We ask this prayer in her memory (mention favor requested). Mary her holiness be recognized by the Church as an example of faithfulness for all the people of our land. We ask this through the merits of Jesus our merciful Savior and the prayer of Mary, Queen of the Rosary. Amen.

(Pray one Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory.)

Those who are granted favors can write to Mother Francisca Commission, Sta. Catalina Convent on 127 Sta. Catalina St., 1114 Quezon City. Call 416-7871, fax 740-6898 or e-mail MCF@mother-francisca-opsiena.net.ph.

Seminarian needs help

Sem. Dennis Pereyra is on his third year of theology studies at the Holy Rosary Major Seminary in Naga City. He wants to be a priest even if he is poor. Those who wish to help can write him at the above address or call him at (054) 475-6297 or (054) 475-7115. Thank you for your kindness.

This column is happy to announce that it has helped poor seminarians become priests because generous readers respond to the pleas for help.

An old traditional wedding

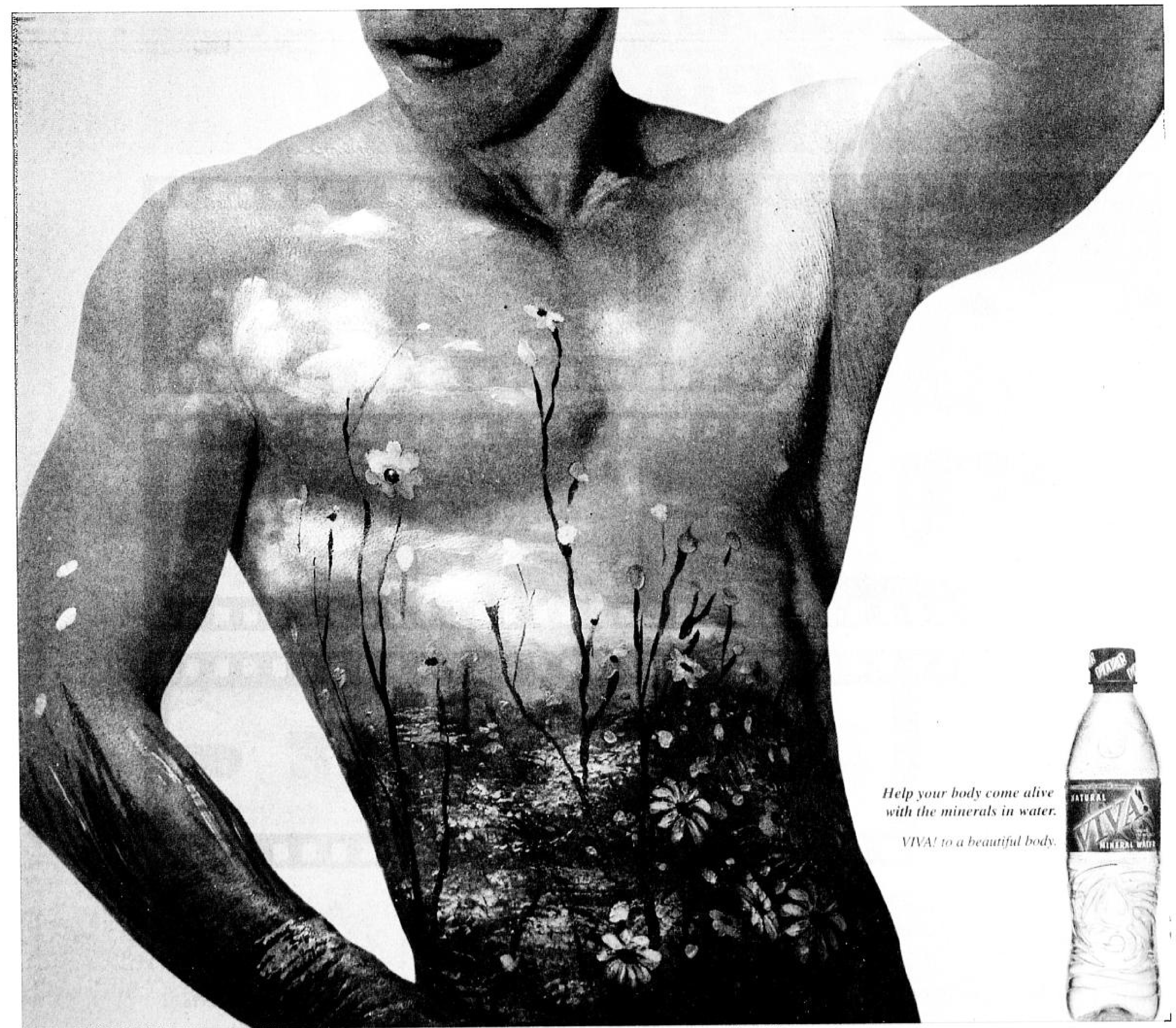
Best wishes to my readers Darius de Castro and Rochelle Vergara who got married on June 7 at the San Rafael Parish in Real, Quezon.

They followed the traditional practice of dancing during the reception with guests pinning money on their clothes as a symbol of their wishes for a comfortable life for the newlyweds.

Father Francisco Makabenla officiated the wedding, with Mayor Joel Diestro as sponsor.

English Mass at 10 a.m.

A special pilgrim Mass in English will be said by Fr. Carlo Ilagan at the Shrine of Our Lady of Caysasay starting June 21, Saturday. This will give a chance for people who cannot go to Taal for the 8 a.m. Mass.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In clan embrace

DOREEN Fernandez—teacher, historian, writer, editor, foodie and family gossip gatherer, among other things

Doreen has always been a template to younger members of the clan, especially the literarily inclined

By Sylvia L. Mayuga
Contributor

THE OUTBURST of mourning and testimonial for Doreen Gamboa-Fernandez in the wake of her passing on June 24 in New York last year continues to be a source of grateful delight, leavening the shock and sorrow of her kin. This seems one of those rare moments of justice in this world, when a clan's love and memory are echoed from near and far in so many startling ways.

Doreen, eldest daughter of Alicia, my mother Simona's eldest sister, has always been a template to younger members of our Lucero clan,' especially the literarily inclined. Not everyone has made a profession of it, but this clan's gaggle of pen-wielders have been honed in stiff competition, swelling the guest list for Doreen's many book-launchings and providing the energy to sustain one of her brainchildren—the Lucero newsletter, born in the '80s.

Like her scholarly journeys into the Ilonggo zarzuela and the rest of Philippine theater, the writer's world and the universe of fine cuisine, the Lucero newsletter combined serious purpose with delight. The idea was to keep a growing tribe connected to the hearth fire of home and origins as its members dispersed through time and emigration like so many Filipino clans. It was also to keep a record of new and varied forms of life irresistibly emerging from the family tree.

It could not be said aloud back then but I dare note with pride in today's more liberated times that our matriarch, Florentina de Guzman, was a bright, plucky friar's daughter raised by a farming family in Jaen, Nueva Ecija. That she became the bride of a much older widower — Santiago Lucero, *abogado de campanilla* from Malolos and eventual senator of the Republic — sums up the grit in our roots.

Familial gossip

But if Lola Tinang and Lolo Tiago's seven children implanted the constant themes of integrity and excellence in the next generation, Doreen, second oldest in our generation, was the hand that guided us to water tradition by recording, contemplating and relishing its growth through the word.

We thank her deeply for leaving us a record of evolution in the Lucero newsletter's familial gossip.

From the branch of our eldest uncle, a justice of the Court of Appeals, for instance, have come both Bea, Olympic-quality gymnast, and Iris, feisty young lawyer much in demand in the field of marital annulment.

From Doreen's own doctor-mother and Negros *hacendero* father also emerged Della, the gifted pianist, whose children include rock musician Johnny, writer Maya and La Salle brother Gabby. From Doreen's *hacendero* sibling Nil have come Rina, a compleat businesswoman for world-class craft from the Negros grassroots, and Jacky, promoter of Russian tractors among young fellow-scions of a sugar planter class in search of new ways.

First-class interior designer Lita and entrepreneurs of quality home furnishing Danding and Evelio were born to our architect uncle and craftswoman aunt.

Three musicians—Nonette and her children Kenny and Lisa—emerged from the line of our pharmacist aunt and Pampango doctor uncle (himself a closet musician who began the day by singing, accompanying himself on the piano to render a German folk song).

From our uncle, the Caviteño military general (a member of the Palestine Commission in the '60s), and our Home Economics teacher super-aunt, came Patsy, the well-loved television professional, and Bee, now an executive in Takashimaya, New York.

From a doctor uncle and an English teacher aunt came teacher/writer Neni, economic analyst Nelin and his twin Chito, a '70s activist now international news executive based in Beijing.

From two business people of shared pioneering bent emerged Mr. Congeniality Larry, poet/philanthropist Joe, business executives/closet artists Mon and Nina, singer/budding poet and craftswoman Cristie, computer professional Bobby and myself, a writer who has survived two marriages, with Aya, a jazz musician-only child, to show for it.

Between the lines of this brief partial list is further proof that the Filipino clan embrace need not always lead to nepotism and corruption but also flowers of achievement and social responsibility in a garland of watchful, irreverent kin. Relative to the Filipino majority below the poverty line, there has admittedly been privilege here. But here, too, have been poverty and illness, tragedy to claw at the heavens for, and deepening challenge to survival.

Testament

That our clan survives—and thrives—must be a testament to something other than class origins, perchance the quality of an ethos and a sense of continuity for which Inday Doreen was such an outstanding apostle.

This, too, we share with so many other clans in our country—unity severely challenged by ideological division. Doreen's brother, a reserve officer in the Philippine Navy, warned me sternly, for instance, of being "on the wrong end of the bayonet" in the marching mid '80s. But political regimes came and went as death, aging, illness, marital separations and care of children born in and out of wedlock in the end became much more vital shared concerns. Long will I treasure Doreen's tactful smile as differences were worked out in warm, enduring clan embrace.

Rock musician's kidney

Carrying on with her many projects even as her health gave way, it tickles me to think how rock musician Johnny Besa's kidney gave her 16 more years of achievement.

Inspiration is well defined by the fact that after two ICU confinements and retirement from teaching at the Ateneo, she next signed up as editor for its Institute of Philippine Culture, seeded a high-powered advocacy group called "Slow Food" (versus fast food) last summer, and took a last trip to New York for the latest on Broadway, despite ongoing physical therapy for muscles beginning to atrophy.

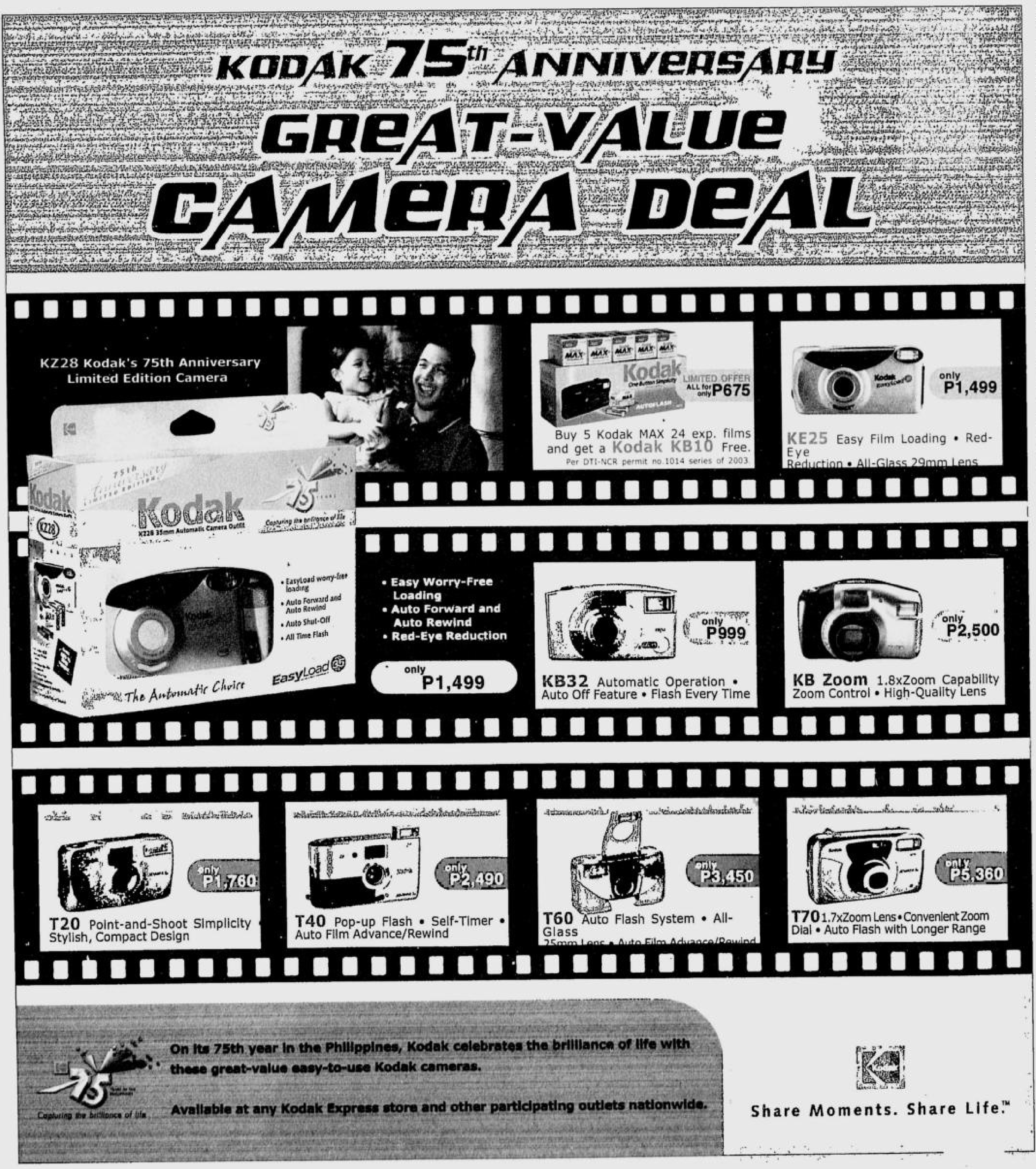
Never was it clearer than in the end that our kinswoman's way was to live and help others live — passionately and well, with style and a deep sense of strength in both tradition and innovation.

Compliment

That the CPP politburo on the other side of the social divide sent its own messages of farewell at the UP memorial service was both metaphor and literal left-handed compliment.

I doubt that my cousin was ever a card-carrying member of the CPP as implied by the effusive greetings. But that this *hacendero's* daughter should have evoked gratitude for secret aid and comfort in the darkest days of martial law speaks volumes of spiritual depth behind the public image, the more impressive for its understatement.

With this posthumous revelation as another feather in Inday Doreen's cap, her students, clan and confreres in the many worlds she moved in can only keep trying to measure up to an aura of blood and spirit now lodged in the warmest recesses of racial memory beyond class and other struggles.



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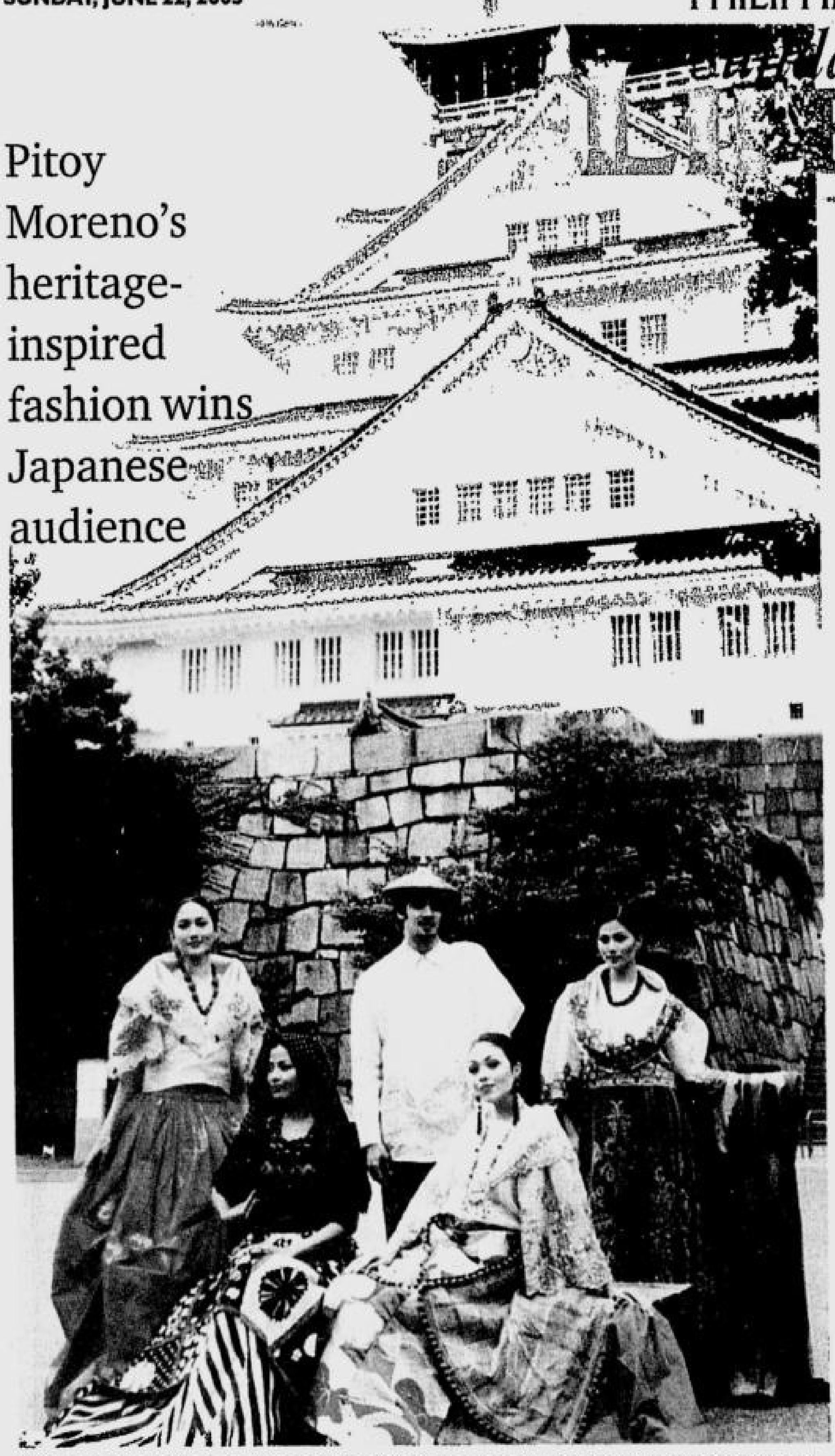


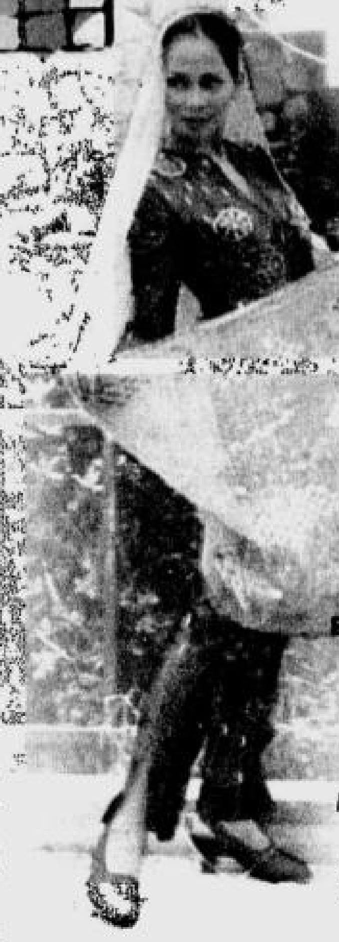
Pitoy Moreno's heritage-inspired fashion wins Japanese audience

WITH THE OSAKA Castle for backdrop, Filipino models pose in authentic and elegant Maria Clara costumes, and a male model in a 19th-century barong and antique *salakot* plays *cabeza de barangay.*

Pinoy costumes reap acclaim in Osaka

PITOY Moreno received a standing ovation after mounting an encore of his Japan show, "Philippine Costume and Inspiration," at Osaka's Grand New Otani Hotel June 12. Ambassador Antonio P. Villamayor organized the project with Gov. Fusae Ohta of the Osaka Prefecture, for the diplomatic corps and Osaka's prominent families.

PITOY/ E6



EMBROIDERED *piña* variation on Maranaw tubular garment described as *landap*, over silk chiffon pants and jacket with circular beaded patterns

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Weakened by SARS, Lion City is ready to roar again

By Rowena C. Burgos

SINCE Singapore was taken by the World Health Organization (WHO) off the list of countries affected by Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), vigilance has been the order of the day for Singapore.

The city state has turned its attention especially on arrivals from SARS-affected countries at its Changi International Airport. Thermal imaging scanners are used to check if any passenger has a fever, which can be a symptom of infection with the SARS virus.

The Infrared Fever Sensing System was originally intended for military use.

The mobile unit scans people's temperature and feeds the data into a computer. Feverish foreheads show up as red spots, and cool ones as blue on silhouetted images on a computer screen.

"Those showing signs of a fever will be pulled aside to have their temperature taken by a nurse," said Constanze Chia Yi Fang, public relations assistant manager, Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore.

The scanners were developed by ST Electronics and the government's Defense Science and Technology Agency. "It is a friendlier way to check temperatures because it's not intrusive to the traveler," Fang said.

Fourteen people died of SARS in the city state, one of the countries most severely affected by the disease.

Losing big

Since mid-March, picture postcard sunsets were enjoyed only by locals as people avoided travelling. Asia's beautiful beaches had very few visitors. Many restaurants and hotels could no longer afford to pay their staff.

The deadly pneumonia-like SARS left the service industry in a slump. At the height of the epidemic, the WHO discouraged nonessential travel to Hong Kong, many parts of mainland China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Philippines and Singapore.

Even though the advisory has been lifted and people are going to Hong Kong again, recent figures show its unemployment rate at a record high. The travel and tourist sectors were hardest hit.

But Hong Kong is not the only loser. Indonesia's resort island, Bali, is weathering the fallout from SARS and a deadly terrorist bombing. SARS hotspot China is also suffering.

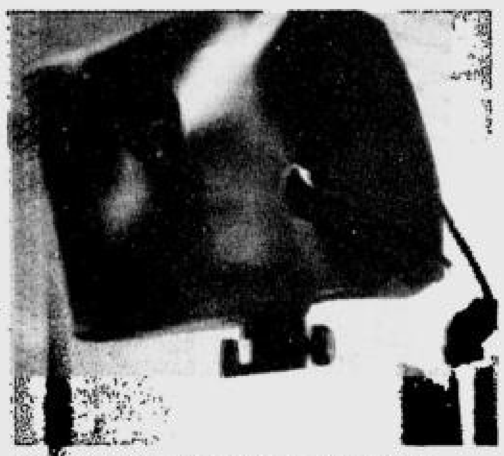
WEAKENED/ E4

Singapore is investing in measures to prevent the devastating disease and to lure back foreign tourists

A HEALTHCARE worker checks the temperature of a young boy.

IN MOST Singapore hotels, temperature checks are conducted on a daily basis, before an employee's shift begins.

ON THE INFRARED Fever Sensing System, feverish foreheads show up as red spots and cool ones as blue.


A THERMAL imaging scanner at Changi Airport is used to check arriving passengers.

"TALE of the Red Hill" was presented by The Finger Players at the Singapore Arts Festival 2003.

THE SINGAPORE Changi Airport has implemented precautionary measures for the passengers' added peace of mind.

A PAINTING competition was part of the "Singapore Cares—Keeping Our Spirit Alive, Let's Go Party" event.

THE STEP OUT! Singapore program featured a two-day entertainment event at Fort Canning Park.

THE GREAT Singapore Sale until July offers shoppers a value lifestyle experience that goes beyond shopping.

A CHINESE opera was presented at Hong Lim Park during the Singapore Arts Festival 2003.

Have you developed healthy habits?

Make sure you...

☑ Have a healthy diet.
☑ Exercise regularly.
☑ Keep your home and surroundings clean.
☑ Wash your hands regularly.
☑ Take your vitamins everyday.

If you've been doing all of these things everyday, then you're on your way to a healthy and energetic life. Keep it up!

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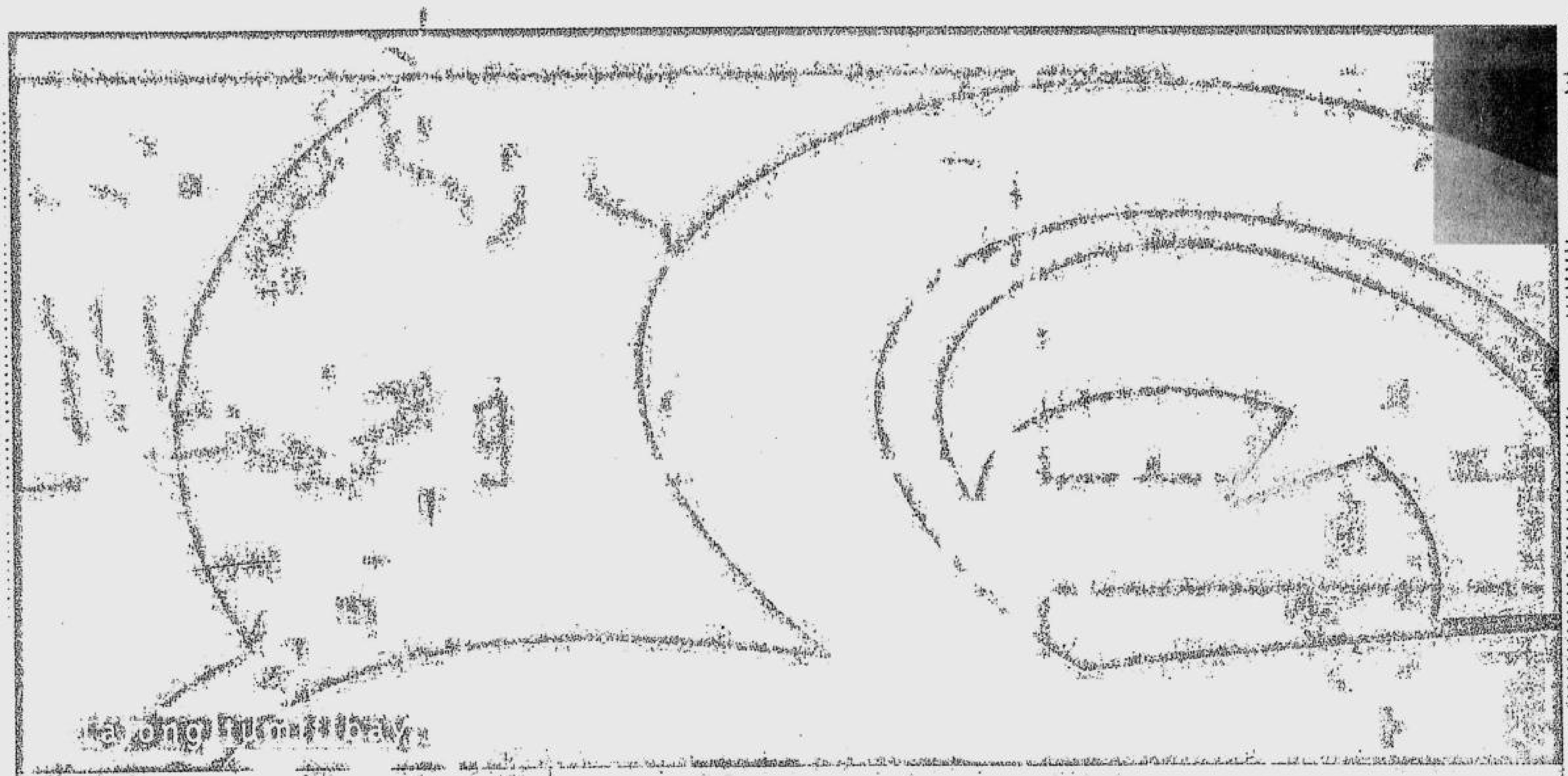


lalong lumilinaw,

lalong luma

lalo

Habang lumalaon,

habang kapiling,

habang nalalanghap.

Buhay Jollibee,

lalong sumasarap.

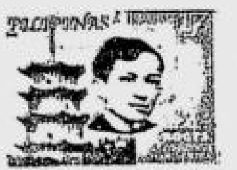
Rizal Roots in China
Commemoration

MANUEL Barcelona Jr. , chair of the board of Philippine Postal Corporation and Manuel Ong Chua of Tulay Foundation present to PROC Embassy counselor Xiao Quian the souvenir frame containing Rizal stamps and First Day Cover.

GEMMA Cruz Araneta with the three matriarchs and other Rizal descendants accepting the souvenir frame

PRESIDENTIAL assistant for historical affairs Manuel Quezon III, representing Pres. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, offers a rose before the start of the program.

Stamp of heroism



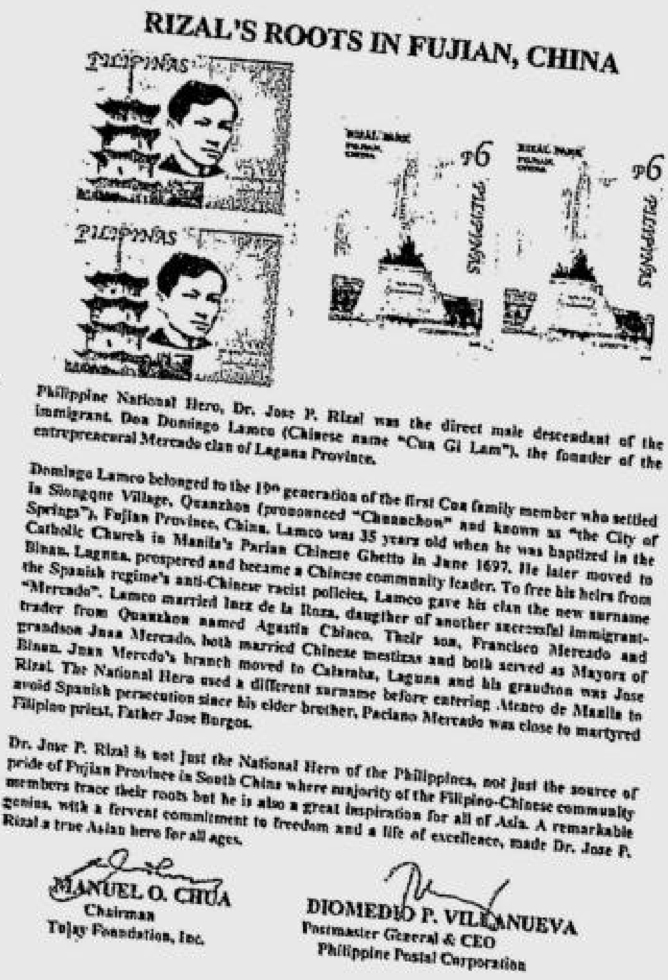
A COMMEMORATIVE stamp to memorialize Siongque Village in Fujian, China where Dr. Jose Rizal's great grandfather originated was launched June 19 in simple ceremonies at the offices of the Tulay Foundation in Binondo, Manila.

In addition to the grandchildren of Rizal's siblings and their families, guests included Philippine Postal Corp. chair Manuel A. Barcelona Jr., and board of directors, Gemma Cruz of the Heritage Conservation Society and representatives from the National Historical Institute and the National Library, members of the Kababaihang Rizalista and the Knights of Rizal, and members of the Federation of Fil-Chi Association of the Philippines..

The Rizal stamps and Official First Day Cover are now available at the Philatelic Division, Door 203, Liwasang Bonifacioand all regional offices of the Philippine Postal Corporation. Last day of sale is Sept. 19, 2003.

Tulay Foundation chair Manuel O. Chua provided the concepts for the two stamps which Lin Shao Chua then designed and Felipe dela Cruz Jr. laid out. One stamp features the Rizal Park which was built in his ancestral village of Siongque in Fujian, China, while the other the Fujian pagoda beside a portrait of Rizal.

The postal stamps are a part of a series of activities commemorating the Chinese ancestry of the national hero. Already, the Foundation has re-issued the book "Lineage, Life and Labors of Jose Rizal—Philippine Patriot" by Professor Austin Craig. In January, the Rizal shrine in Fujian was inaugurated with Rizal descendants, officials of the Philippine government and the Knights of Rizal and members of the Filipino-Chinese business community in attendance. There are plans to built a Rizal museum-library in the site.



RIZAL'S ROOTS IN FUJIAN, CHINA

PILIPINAS
PILIPINAS
RIZAL PARK FUJIAN, CHINA
P6
PILIPINAS

Philippine National Hero, Dr. Jose P. Rizal was the direct male descendant of the immigrant, Don Domingo Lamco (Chinese name "Cua Gi Lam"), the founder of the entrepreneural Mercado clan of Laguna Province.

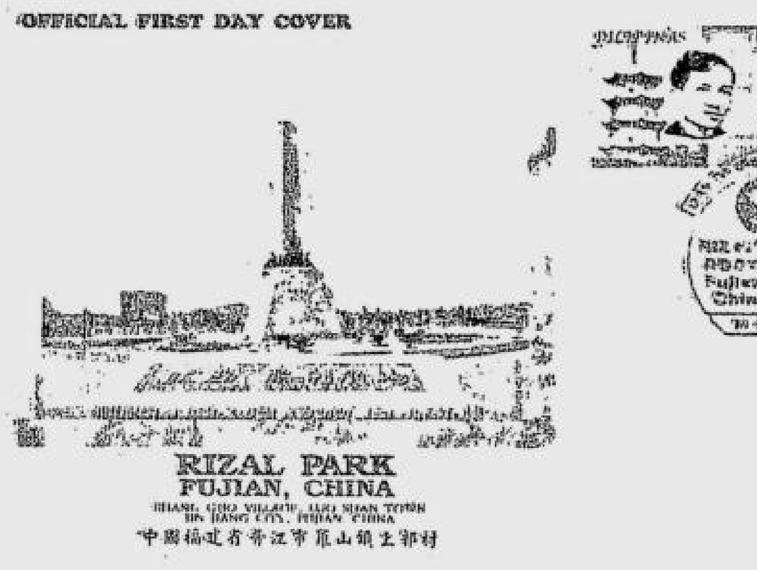
Domingo Lamco belonged to the 19th generation of the first Cua family member who settled in Siongque Village, Quanzhou (pronounced "Chuanchow" and known as "the City of Springs"), Fujian Province, China. Lamco was 35 years old when he was baptized in the Catholic Church in Manila's Parian Chinese Ghetto in June 1697. He later moved to Binan, Laguna, prospered and became a Chinese community leader. To free his heirs from the Spanish regime's anti-Chinese racist policies, Lamco gave his clan the new surname "Mercado". Lamco married Inez de la Rosa, daughter of another successful immigrant-trader from Quanzhou named Agustin Chinco. Their son, Francisco Mercado and grandson Juan Mercado, both married Chinese mestizas and both served as Mayors of Binan. Juan Mercado's branch moved to Calamba, Laguna and his grandson was Jose Rizal. The National Hero used a different surname before entering Ateneo de Manila to avoid Spanish persecution since his elder brother, Paciano Mercado was close to martyred Filipino priest, Father Jose Burgos.

Dr. Jose P. Rizal is not just the National Hero of the Philippines, not just the source of pride of Fujian Province in South China where majority of the Filipino-Chinese community members trace their roots but he is also a great inspiration for all of Asia. A remarkable genius, with a fervent commitment to freedom and a life of excellence, made Dr. Jose P. Rizal a true Asian hero for all ages.

MANUEL O. CHUA
Chairman
Tulay Foundation, Inc.

DIOMEDIO P. VILLANUEVA
Postmaster General & CEO
Philippine Postal Corporation

COMMEMORATIVE plaque acknowledging Rizal as direct descendant of Domingo Lamco from Siongque village in Quanzhou, Fujian, China



OFFICIAL First Day Cover for the Rizal commemorative stamps

Weakened by SARS, Lion City is ready to roar again

From page E2

In these two destinations, things have got so bad some hotels have suspended operations entirely, analysts say.

Initial estimates suggest SARS cost East Asia at least $25 billion in lost tourism revenue. Because leisure travel can lead to business connections, the fewer the people marveling at a country's natural beauty, the harder it becomes to sell its other assets to investors.

For countries that draw a substantial part of their income from tourism, it's hard for the economy to move forward when no one visits.

Recovery program

To get the Lion City roaring again, the Singapore Tourism Board (STB) and the country's tourism industry unveiled recently a S$200 million (about US$116 million) program to deal with the aftermath of SARS. The latest phase in STB's strategy, the program focuses on "confidence building, in-market coop tactical promotions with industry partners and a global campaign."

"The program is expected to draw about 4 million visitors to Singapore over the next seven months and generate tourism receipts of over S$4 billion (about US$2.32 billion)," said Rocson Chang, STB's area director for the Philippines and Brunei.

According to Lim Shien Yau, STB's brand development manager, the first incidence of SARS on Mar. 13 and the Iraq war caused visitor arrivals in March to decrease by 14.6 percent or a total of 559,289 visitors compared to March 2002. Visitor arrivals from January to March fell by two percent, a total of 1,814,059 visitors, compared to the same period in 2002.

"We know that recovery in visitor numbers will take time and we are doing everything to spur a sustainable recovery. We believe that now is the right time to work towards long-term sustainable visitor number recovery since Singapore has been removed from WHO's list of SARS-affected countries," Chang said.

Singapore is the third Asian country, after Vietnam and the Philippines, to be taken off the list of SARS-affected countries.

Going the extra mile

The first phase of STB's recovery program included the implementation of rigorous SARS precautionary measures through the Cool Singapore Award at Changi Airport, hotels, ground transportation services and key tourism venues.

The award recognizes tourism establishments and service providers which have achieved gold standard for best practices in SARS precautionary measures.

The certification includes assessment of management commitment to develop and implement SARS preventive measures, staff temperature checks in hotels and other tourism facilities, highest standards of disinfection for premises, ensuring that hotel staff have not visited SARS-affected areas over the past 10 days, screening of vendors and suppliers, appointment of SARS prevention manager and education of staff on SARS awareness.

"The aim of Cool Singapore is to reassure and rebuild confidence among Singaporeans and visitors that all necessary precautionary measures are in place, so they can enjoy all that Singapore has to offer," said Elaine Yap Yin Ling, STB's manager for healthcare services.

Stepping out

To stimulate domestic tourism and encourage Singaporeans and residents to step out of their homes, eat, shop, attend major events and enjoy life, the STB also invested S$2 million (US$1.16 million) over the next two months in the Step Out! Singapore program.

The program consists of packages and discounts and a lineup of activities like the Great Singapore Sale and Singapore Arts Festival and street festivals until June 30.

Funding has been provided to tourism-related companies, retailers and food and beverage establishments and event organizers.

"The return of normalcy and vibrancy is a necessary pre-condition for the return of leisure travelers to Singapore. As a ballpark estimate, we expect this initiative to generate an increase of up to S$100 million (US$58 million) in direct and indirect economic spinoffs," Chang said.

The Philippine media tour to Singapore was sponsored by Singapore Airlines and the Singapore Tourism Board.

Singapore Airlines flies to Singapore three times daily. Call 751-5151/52 or 810-4960 ext. 4005-06.

E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.com.ph

JOLLIBEE LAUNCHES LANDMARK CAMPAIGN: BUHAY JOLLIBEE, LALONG SUMASARAP

JOLLIBEE sends out a message of hope this year. A message that the tough times won't last forever. That the passage of time, with the grace of God, will bring better days. That a taste of things to come tastes very good indeed.

Buhay Jollibee is a moment of closeness between mother and child. Thanking God for the simple joys and blessings in life. The everyday events and experiences that make our lives meaningful.

Lalong sumasarap is the promise that all things get better over time. It's a promise that crosses over into Jollibee's commitment to continuous improvement of its products and services. You see it in more crispylicious Chickenjoy, in langhap-sumasarap burgers, in an explosion of flavor variants for Jolly Twirl Crunch, more Burgersteak sauces, and a value for money proposition that is more and more compelling. A promise that every visit at Jollibee will just keep getting better and better.

Parang Pagkakakilala, lalong lumalalim.

Pagkakaibigan, lalong tumitibay.

Pagsasama, lalong umiigting.

Buhay Jollibee, lalong sumasarap.

THE BUHAY JOLLIBEE, LALONG SUMASARAP CAMPAIGN WAS CREATED BY BASIC ADVERTISING.

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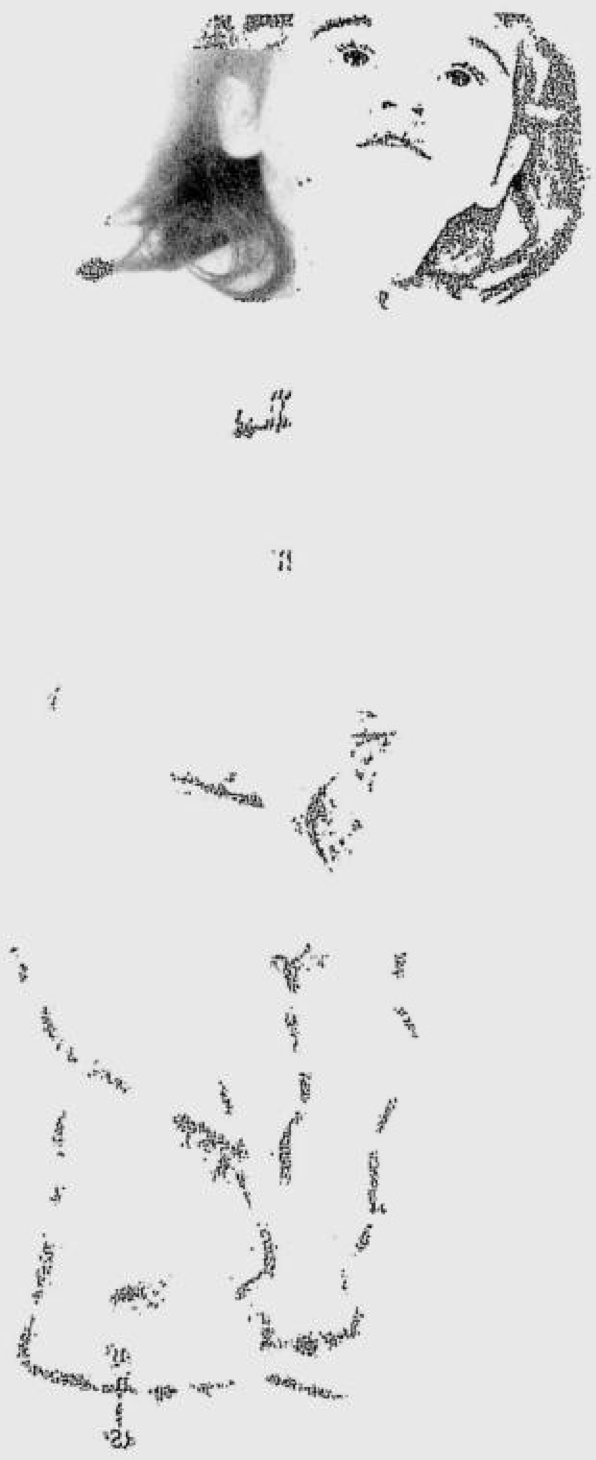


Naglalakad ka na!

Maya-maya tumatawid na sa pagkadalaga.

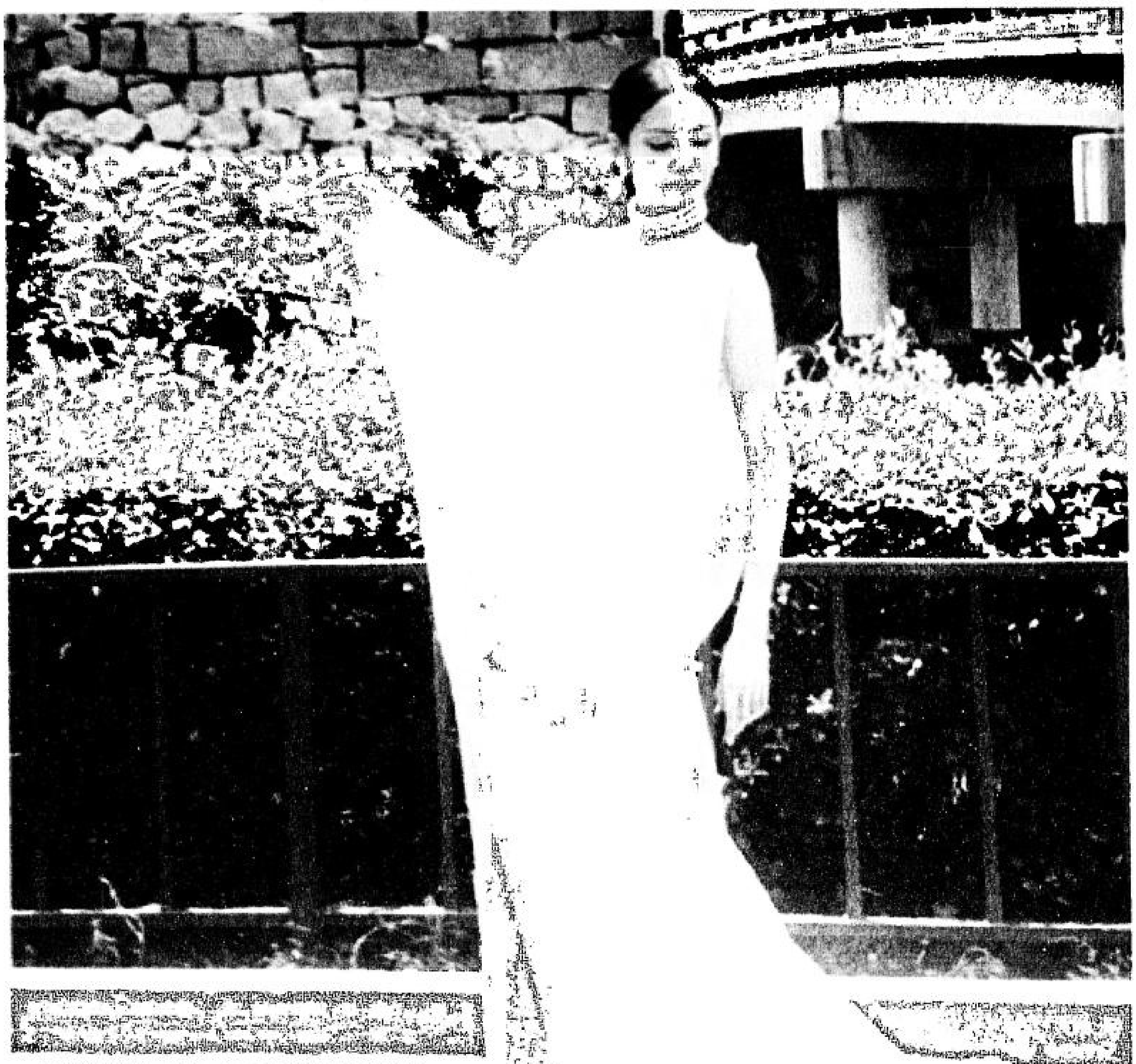
Tapos nagmamartsa ka na papuntang altar.

Tapos tatakbo nang pangulo ng Pilipinas.

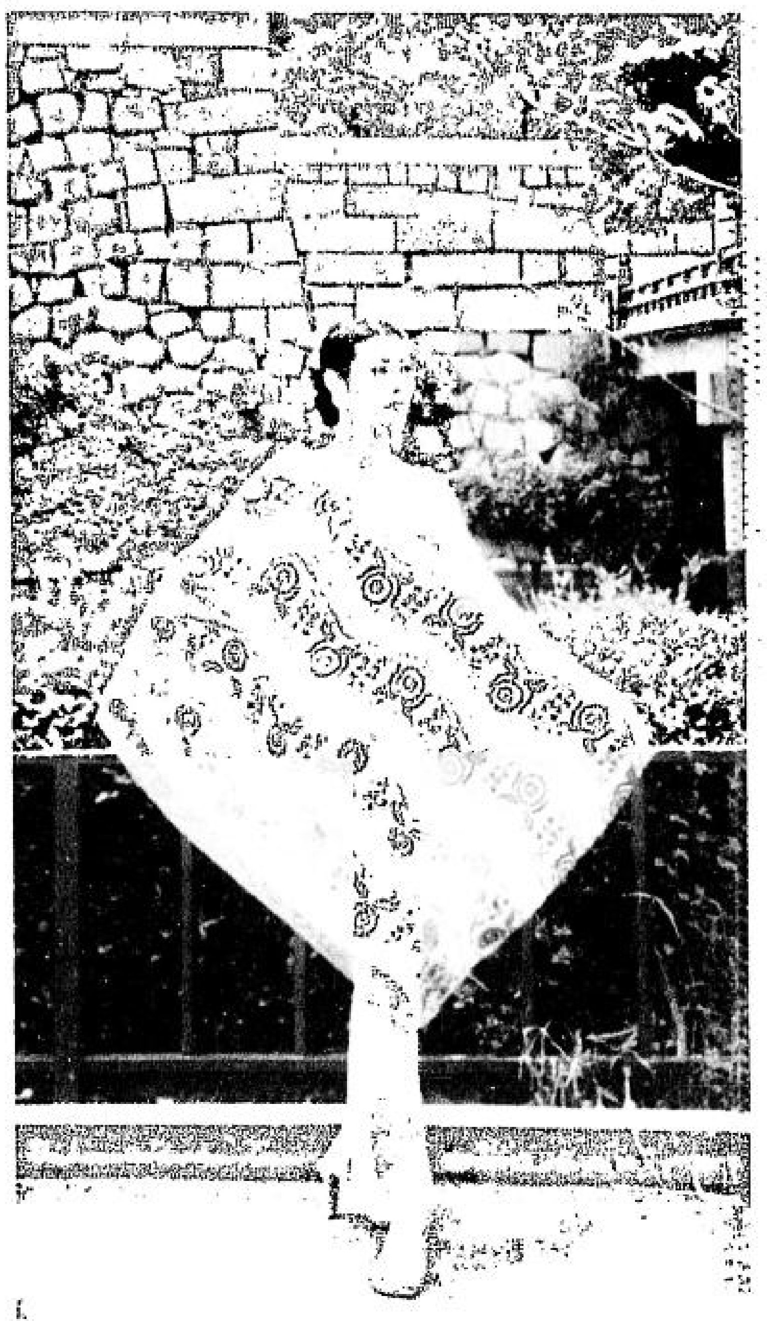
Pero 'ika nga, one step at a time.

Lasapin muna natin ang bawat lakad sa Jollibee.

Buhay Jollibee. Lalong sumasarap.



TAPESTRY. *Landap malong* design made of *piña* embroidered with Sulu pearls on top of a mint green chiffon gown



COLORFUL Maranaw tubular garment made of *sinamay* with embroidered designs of *landap* in exotic Muslim colors. Underneath is a gold gown embellished with seed pearls, crystals and colored stones.

Pinoy costumes reap acclaim in Osaka

From page E1

Making references to the 1970 World's Fair in Osaka, Moreno also presented his collection at the Osaka Pavilion. He also mounted two shows in Tokyo, with Imelda Marcos as guest of honor.

Joining the Philippine delegation were Armi Kusuela, Stella Marquez Araneta, Gloria Diaz, Aurora Pijuan, Tingting Cojuangco, Conchitina Bernardo, Toni Parsons, Evelyn Camos, Monet de los Reyes, Nini Licaros, and Celia and Susie Laurel.

Two years ago, Moreno presented the same collection in Tokyo. Last year he represented the Philippines in the Osaka Bridal Summit. His collection was featured at the Miho Museum, which was designed by I.M. Pei, the architect behind the new Louvre Pavilion.

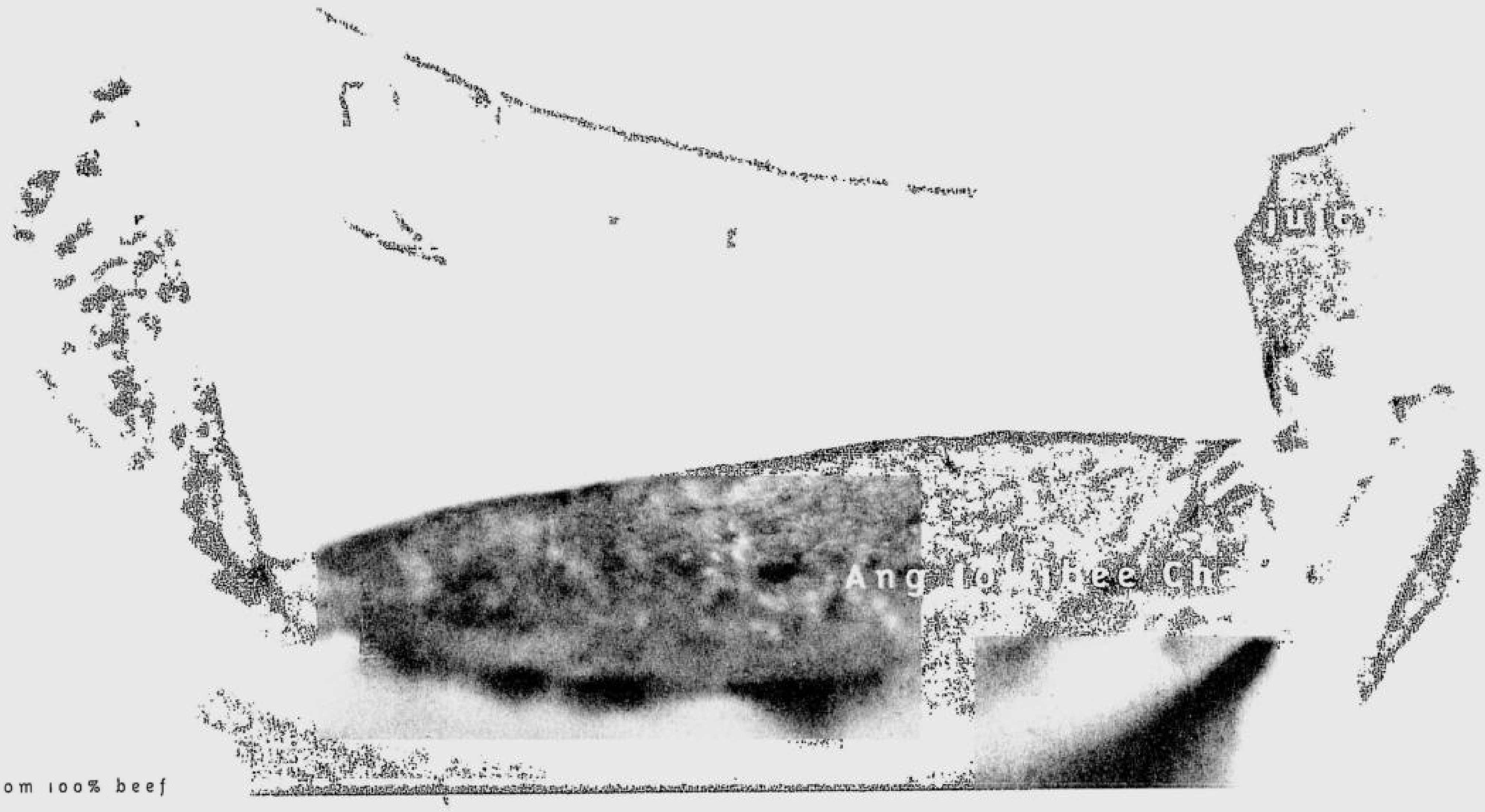
AT THE CASTLE Museum, Maria Clara-inspired dress, and authentic barong and *salakot*. In background is one of the most valuable field armors with two-part cuirass.

TRADITIONAL trio in obi and embroidered top, in brown apron, in beige top; skirts of exotic gold lamé or brilliant orange roses; beaded *panuelos*

MUSLIM-INSPIRED gown with lattice (or *banig* design) work with jacket and drape skirt with geometric *andon* design

AT THE TENNOJI Garden, hand-embroidered piña barong tagalog inspired by the *camisa de chino*, with striped pants, *buntal* and abaca hats

HIS AND HERS. J. Moreno pop design barong in linen with shorts and colored T-shirt patched with *sarimanok* and *sabong* and butterfly designs


Ang Jollibee Ch

*made from 100% beef

Buhay Jollibee. Lalong sumasarap.

Buhay Jollibee. Lalong sumasarap.

Sunday LIFESTYLE

PINOY PRIDE Gay symbol and pride / F2

Jose Javier Reyes on the painful art of firing / F3

Coming out with pride

By Sonny Zablan and Doy Roque
Contributors

THE UNEXPECTEDLY large gay and lesbian crowd at the recent reading of the "Ladlad" and "Tibok" anthologies at Powerbooks Megamall, perhaps states clearly the direction the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community is taking in the Philippines.

People nonchalantly milled about. Many were old acquaintances. Some were new to the literary circuit. All but a few were gay, which was not apparent. Except for the extremely engaging and often erotic poetry, there was nary an indication that it was a gay crowd. It was a throng of accomplished professionals listening to the banter of some very extraordinary people.

The event, it seems, accurately reflects the profile of what the Filipino homosexual has become: the antithesis of what were once-pervasive stereotypes—the screaming fag, in the case of the male homosexual, and the Nora Aunor tomboy character in "Si T-Bird at Ako," in the case of a lesbian.

According to Danton Remoto, co-editor of "Ladlad," the Philippines has among the most progressive attitudes toward and among homosexuals. "You know that the gay and lesbian community in the Philippines has progressed because we now have good representation across the LGBT spectrum," he said. "I believe that we are even more progressive than Thailand, where the parlor gay and drag queen stereotypes are heavily reinforced."

Remoto, however, is quick to note that Filipino society still has a long way to go when it comes to social attitudes toward homosexuals. Discrimination based on sexual orientation remains rampant in the Philippines. Children with "tendencies" are sometimes beaten by their parents and ridiculed by their peers. Other forms of discrimination include verbal assault and even job termination.

Issue channel

Once viewed as a Mardi Gras of gay revelers, Gay Pride month is now seen by a growing minority as a means of communicating very important issues in the LGBT community, such as empowerment and social acceptance.

"Another important issue is the search for identity," says Anna Leah Sarabia of the Women's Media Circle and CLIC (Can't Live in the Closet). "We do not want an overarching typology of the Filipino homosexual. We would rather that each person tell a story that is unique, that gives one his or her own identity."

Ultimately, the battle for equal rights is what underpins the Gay Pride movement, something that the Mardi Gras celebrations often mask. Gay Pride originated from demonstrations of gays and les

COMING/ F2

> Amid changing societal values, more and more Pinoys are taking real pride in their homosexuality

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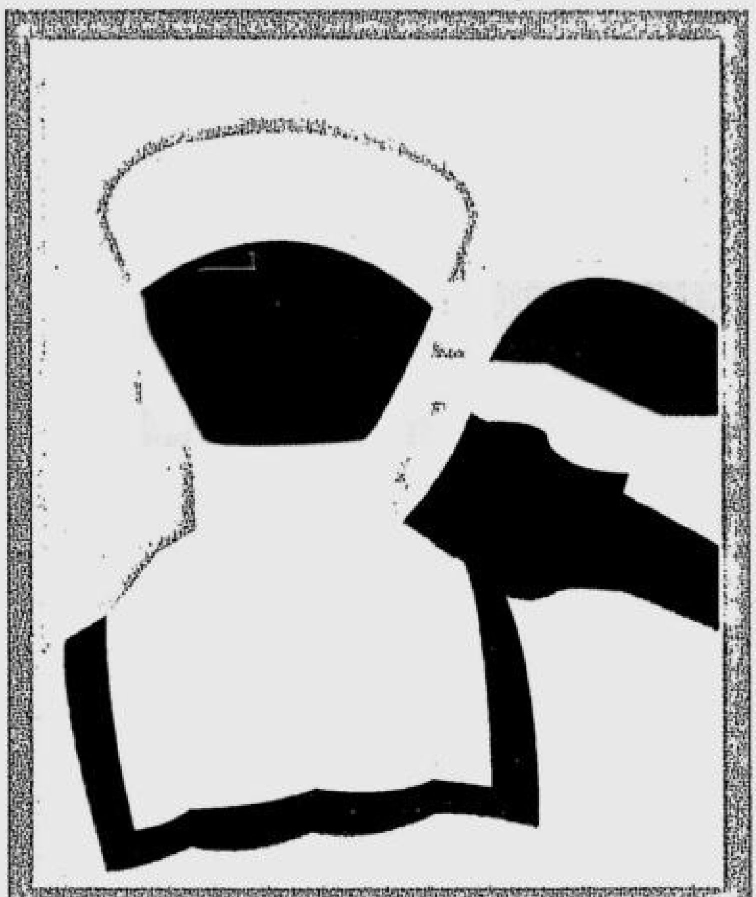


ALL ABOARD!

THE WHITE PARTY IN MALATE

THIS year's Lesbian and Gay Pride celebration will once again be held on Orosa Street, Malate, on June 28. Embarkation time is 9 p.m.

The party will have nautical white as its motif, which provides the look and feel of a cruise on a luxury liner, a reinterpretation of last year's successful White Party concept.

This singular "dance-cruise" event will feature Manila's top DJs—Manolet Dario, Patch and Cocoy Puyat. It also features DJ KQM from New York.

Adding glamour to the maiden voyage, drag divas and hot sailor boys will perform show-stoppers all night long. Thematic video art, dance boardwalks, extravagant lighting and set designs are just among the club features for everyone's pleasure.

And, yes, everyone is expected to arrive in nautical wear or in an all-white fashion.

Angelo Villanueva, at the helm of the Cuervo Nation bridge tower, will navigate the event and welcome everyone.

Prominent Cuervo personality JR Isaac will host celebrity guests and friends on board.

To complement the Malate voyage—from Fidel to Mamma, from Acquario to Courtyard, from Pride Exchange to Komiks and, of course, to Bed, outdoor satellite bars will offer an array of specially priced Cuervo drink mixes and concoctions that will surely make everyone's "cruise" a lot more pleasurable.

So all aboard! Enjoy a proud and spectacular sail!

Our symbol, our pride

Pinoy Pride, a network of individuals and organizations that aims to establish a unified voice for the lesbian and gay community, celebrates Gay Pride Month with the launch of the Pride symbol

By Joel Capco and Anna Leah Sarabia
Contributors

THE SYMBOL is a ribbon fashioned into a Mobius strip that has two tails opposite each other laterally. The shape is a takeoff from the infinity symbol, showing how diversity in nature and in humanity is a universal, unending principle. The lines are two moving curves found in the ancient Filipino *alibata* script. The result is an organic shape that is at the same time abstract while retaining the Mindanao *okir* sculptural and Filipino "baroque" architectural features.

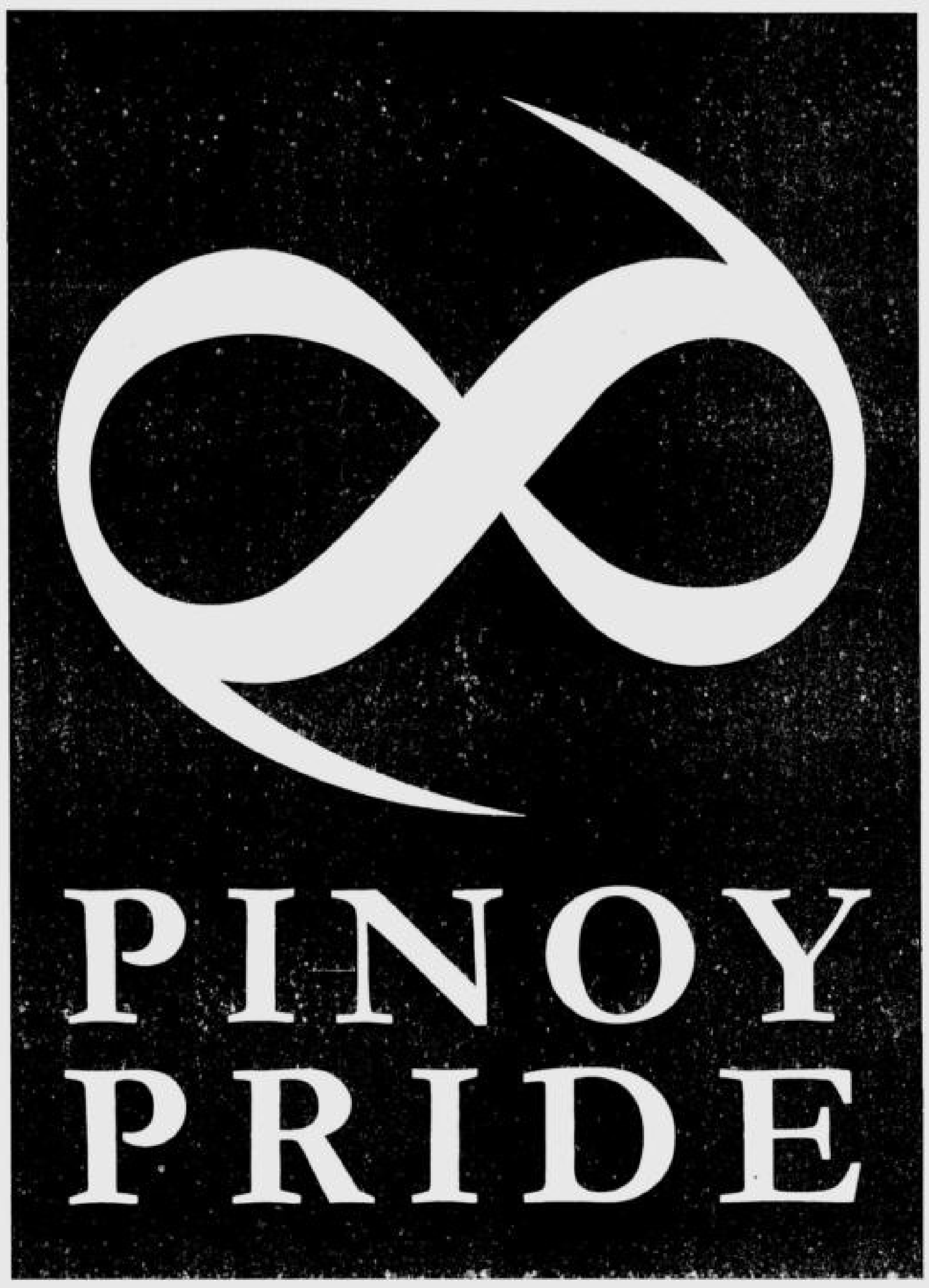
The shape also connotes the Egyptian *ankh*, symbol of the goddess Isis. It means people are forever linked to each other in a never-ending path that we call eternity. It is a popular version of the circle of life, a concept that is common to most cultures around the world. It tells us of the dynamic role that people have in each other's lives.

When viewed as a reflection in the mirror, the symbol discloses another meaning. It is a number that stirs the imagination. It is an act of sharing and an expression of equality. The joy of giving is reciprocated by the openness to receive. That relationships, bonds and communities tread on a two-way street.

Pride is a word that the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community has taken to challenge the discrimination and human rights violations inflicted on its members. Wherever you see the word "pride," you will understand that here is a group of people forced to silence by torture, prejudice and harassment, but who will defend their lives, their very being.

The Pinoy Pride symbol in its most basic meaning shows the Filipino gay and lesbian community's desire for freedom, harmony and equality. It means respect for each other. It means the spirit of celebrating people's individuality, creativity, diversity and dreams. It means sharing people's similarities and celebrating their uniqueness. It means being common in one's differences.

The Pinoy Pride symbol was designed by BrandLab, a brand consultancy affiliate of BBDO Worldwide.



The Pinoy Pride symbol in its most basic meaning is the Filipino gay and lesbian community's desire for freedom, harmony and equality

Coming out with pride

From page F1

bians after police raided New York's Stonewall Inn, a private bar frequented by homosexuals. "The Stonewall demonstration commemorates the first real mass protest against the harassment of homosexuals, making Gay Pride a very serious endeavor for many of us advocating equal rights," Sarabia says.

Some of the more prominent issues gay activists have fought for in recent years include homosexual unions and equal rights for homosexual-led families.

Many advocates note, however, that while the fight for better treatment is intrinsic to the Gay Pride advocacy, the whole idea is premised on the principle of equal rights, not special rights. "Homosexuals only want their fundamental human rights protected and promoted," says Melo Esguerra, TV producer and Gay Pride advocate. Equal protection under the law, equal opportunities and access to employment, health care and education, and freedom of expression—are human rights that all people, regardless of whether they are homosexuals or not, have, but these are often systematically denied of homosexuals due to discrimination.

Paradox

Paradoxically, the key to gaining ground on gay rights may not solely lie in political activism. It may also result from other avenues for social change, such as social entrepreneurship. While politicians and activists push for new laws such as sectoral representation and same-sex unions, the upwardly mobile homosexual class seems to be changing the sensibilities of the mainstream.

Says Sarabia, who is the editor of "Tibok," an anthology of lesbian writings, "It is no secret that the most progressive places in the world are also usually havens for gay people, ethnic minorities and a pioneering entrepreneurial class. This is a clear signal to the mainstream that diversity is necessary for progress and even prosperity, making minority cultures such as the ones propounded by the gay community actually essential to the growth of modern societies."

When you couple this unequivocal movement toward diversity and the concerted efforts of organizations advocating equal rights, you have a potent brew that makes the journey of non-heterosexual Filipinos, estimated by the publication ManilaOut to be 10 percent of more than 70 million Filipinos, a lot more interesting.

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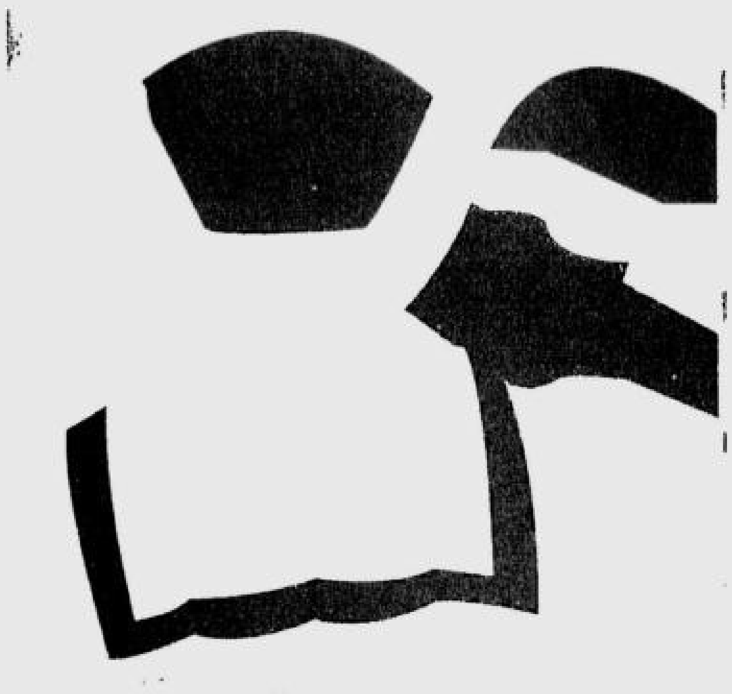

ABOARD!

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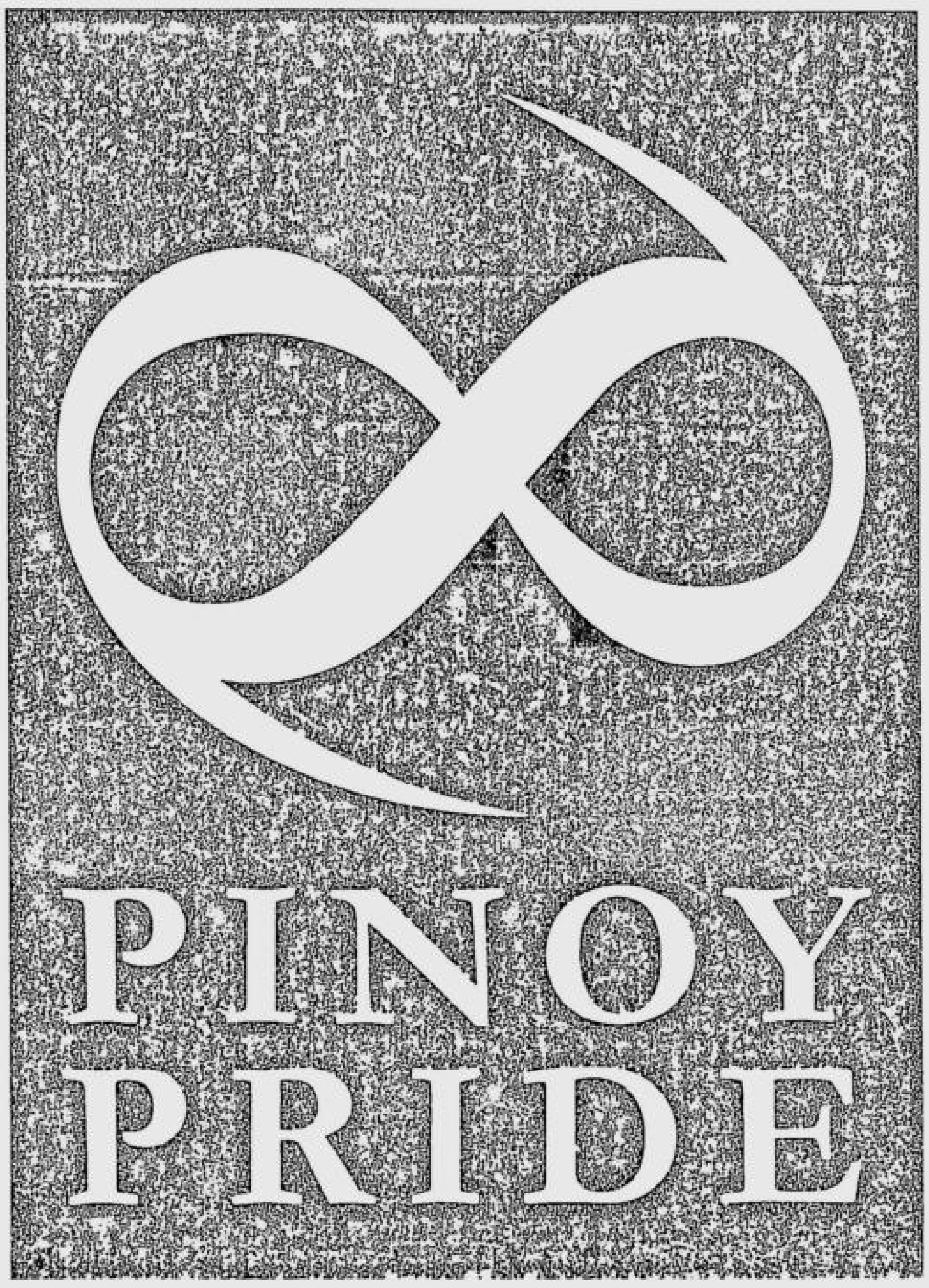
By Joel Capco and Anna Leah Sarabia
Contributors



The Pinoy Pride symbol in its most basic meaning is the Filipino gay and lesbian community's desire for freedom, harmony and equality

THE SYMBOL is a ribbon fashioned into a Mobius strip that has two tails opposite each other laterally. The shape is a takeoff from the infinity symbol, showing how diversity in nature and in humanity is a universal, unending principle. The lines are two moving curves found in the ancient Filipino *alibata* script. The result is an organic shape that is at the same time abstract while retaining the Mindanao *okir* sculptural and Filipino "baroque" architectural features.

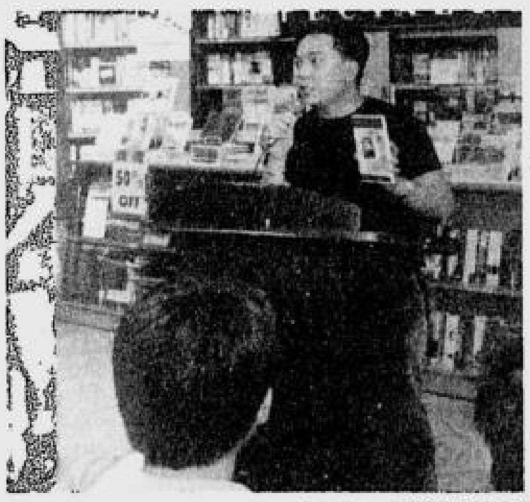
The shape also connotes the Egyptian *ankh*, symbol of the goddess Isis. It means people are forever linked to each other in a never-ending path that we call eternity. It is a popular version of the circle of life, a concept that is common to most cultures around the world. It tells us of the dynamic role that people have in each other's lives.

When viewed as a reflection in the mirror: the symbol discloses another meaning. It is a number that stirs the imagination. It is an act of sharing and an expression of equality. The joy of giving is reciprocated by the openness to receive. That relationships, bonds and communities tread on a two-way street.

Pride is a word that the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community has taken to challenge the discrimination and human rights violations inflicted on its members. Wherever you see the word "pride," you will understand that here is a group of people forced to silence by torture, prejudice and harassment, but who will defend their lives, their very being.

The Pinoy Pride symbol in its most basic meaning shows the Filipino gay and lesbian community's desire for freedom, harmony and equality. It means respect for each other. It means the spirit of celebrating people's individuality, creativity, diversity and dreams. It means sharing people's similarities and celebrating their uniqueness. It means being common in one's differences.

The Pinoy Pride symbol was designed by BrandLab, a brand consultancy affiliate of BBDO Worldwide.



Coming out with pride

The Stonewall demonstration commemorates the first real mass protest against the harassment of homosexuals, making Gay Pride a very serious endeavor for many of us advocating equal rights

Fr[illegible]

[illegible] bians after police raided New York's Stonewall Inn, a private bar frequented by homosexuals. "The Stonewall demonstration commemorates the first real mass protest against the harassment of homosexuals, making Gay Pride a very serious endeavor for many of us advocating equal rights," Sarabia says.

Some of the more prominent issues gay activists have fought for in recent years include homosexual unions and equal rights for homosexual-led families.

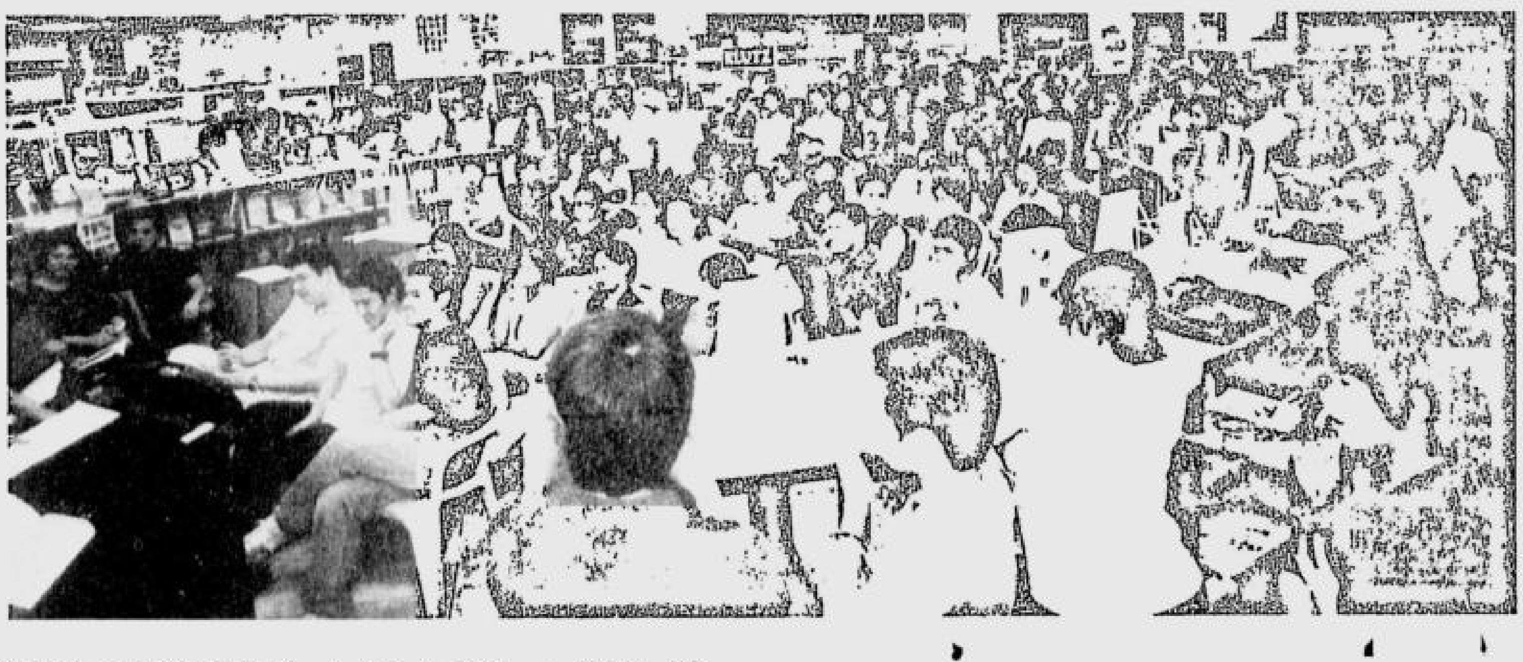
Many advocates note, however, that while the fight for better treatment is intrinsic to the Gay Pride advocacy, the whole idea is premised on the principle of equal rights, not special rights. "Homosexuals only want their fundamental human rights protected and promoted," says Melo Esguerra, TV producer and Gay Pride advocate. Equal protection under the law, equal opportunities and access to employment, health care and education, and freedom of expression—are human rights that all people, regardless of whether they are homosexuals or not, have, but these are often systematically denied of homosexuals due to discrimination.

Paradox

Paradoxically, the key to gaining ground on gay rights may not solely lie in political activism. It may also result from other avenues for social change, such as social entrepreneurship. While politicians and activists push for new laws such as sectoral representation and same-sex unions, the upwardly mobile homosexual class seems to be changing the sensibilities of the mainstream.

Says Sarabia, who is the editor of "Tibok," an anthology of lesbian writings: "It is no secret that the most progressive places in the [illegible] usually havens for [illegible] minorities and [illegible] entrepreneurial class. Th[illegible] a clear signal to the mainstream that diversity is necessary for progress and even prosperity, making minority cultures such as the ones propounded by the gay community actually essential to the growth of modern [illegible]

Wh[illegible] [illegible] rights [illegible] that make[illegible] heterosexual [illegible] by the public[illegible] be 10 per[illegible] million Fil[illegible]



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The painful art of firing

By Jose Javier Reyes
Contributor

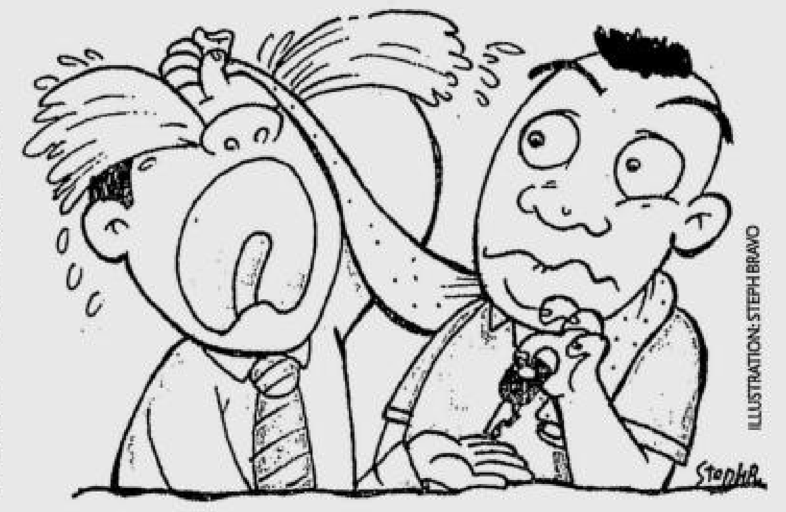


ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

HAVING written too many scripts in my life, I never imagined that the hardest scene to write is one that seems an everyday occurrence. I have written quiet scenes, hysterical scenarios, over-the-top situations with dialogues meant to be quotable quotes in movie trailers and used as selling points by the marketing people. I have provoked tears, incited anger and irked the Church with such comfortable ease, thanks to the magic of script writing software.

But to concoct just the right emotional content, pick the exact number of words and set up the near-perfect scenario in firing an employee is something I would rather leave the more qualified and professional to do.

Of course, those who earn their living in personnel departments or bosses who have made a legend out of their bossiness take this sort of incident as regular as the consumption of take-out Starbucks Coffee.

An office employee goes to work with a precise reason in mind—and his/her relationship with the boss can only be as personal or as intimate as the walls that divide the pecking order would provide. However, dealing with your housemaid or driver is an entirely different universe altogether.

Unless you are romancing your employees, you do not usually share your home with them. And even if you are extending office hours beyond the limits of the bundy clock, someone working for you will not usually enter the privacy of your self-created territory.

That makes the major difference with household helps and drivers. They enter your life, fill up all the extraneous needs and eventually become part of your system. You hire them, you live with them… and they end up knowing too much about you—perhaps even more than your mother.

The housemaid knows details about your daily existence: the books on your bedside, what you read in the loo or even your private collection of VHS and DVDs. She can even confirm if you leave skid marks on your underwear or how many days you use a towel before it lands on your hamper. She knows who you take home—and eventually who ends up in your bed when she changes the sheets.

The driver holds the key to your life. Not only does your safety depend on the accuracy of his eyesight or the level of his literacy, he is literally with you everyday. For someone like me who has never learned how to drive, my driver has all the significant details to define my socio-economic status: He knows where I shop, where I work, where I bank and who I go out with. For God's sake, he even knows the exact addresses of my playmates and significant other. Yes, my driver knows me more than my mother.

Devastating

Now taking these strangers into your house and making them more than just a part of your life can have quite devastating effects. How many times (especially in moments of utmost frustration) have I wished that I lived in a compact condo with all the gadgets necessary so I could dispense of other human beings? How many times have I wanted to grab a shotgun and go completely nuts each time the housekeeper and the driver try to rip each other's throat in their endless battle to prove who is more important in Kuya's life? How many times did they test the ultimate limits of my patience because of all the sad stories and fantastic plot lines they concocted each time they needed a cash advance or when they destroyed something I own?

"*Ano ang banggang yan? Bakit ka nabangga?*" The driver would simply shrug and blame the Meralco light post that just happened to be there on the car's way when he was parking. "*Hindi ko naman alam na may poste, Kuya.*" One-two-three-four-five… By the count of 36, I would have resumed my normal breathing. "*Este, Manong … Bakit lahat ng kotse nakakasalubong natin? Wala yatang pareho natin ang* direction?" Prrrrrrrrrt! Two thousand pesos and an entire afternoon later, the driver returns from City Hall with an inane complaint, "*Hindi naman nila sinasabi na ginawa nang* one way *ang kalyeng yon. Ang gulu-gulo!*" One-two-three-four-five-six…

Oh, yes: it is never and will never be his fault. He will even conjure the alignment of Mars with his birth sign to explain why my car now looks like a teenager suffering from terminal acne pockmarks.

How do you terminate the services of people you have allowed intimate access to your life, like your maid or driver?

So one fine day you decide that you have had enough. No, the driver has not killed the housekeeper. He has even learned to love my dogs. But you have had enough: It is a choice between his livelihood and your sanity. And since martyrdom went out of fashion since the world population turned global in attitude, a decision is made. He has got to go.

The question is how do you fire him without grappling with your conscience, knowing that he is no longer some sprightly spring chicken and that he has a family of 10.

These are the few times you wished they would offer three-day seminars on how to obliterate any semblance of conscience.

"Okay *ka lang*?" someone said, "You pay him… you should be his problem and not the other way around."

Then another offered, "Your problem is that you befriend them… you get close to them. You really should not. They should know the order of things in your house. *Ikaw ang amo*. Period." Yeah, right, like I am the Alpha Male and everybody's got to kiss my feet and feed on the leftovers after I have devoured the carcass.

"There is a delicate balance here," a more analytic friend said, "You have to treat them well… but not too well because Pinoys have a tendency to be *adelantado, presumido* and eventually *kargante. Naku, lalung-lalo na yang mga* maids *at* drivers, *ha?*" Right. Treat them like family and they behave worse than your relatives. Act like a Gestapo on amphetamine and you end up with a case with the Department of Labor.

"*Yung isa ko ngang* maid, *sinunog yung barong ko… Binato ko ng plantsa. Hindi naman naka-*on *yung plantsa… at saka hindi tinamaan.* But ever since then *maingat na siya*." I was completely stunned.

Now how do you tell somebody that you won't need his services any more? What is the perfect timing to do this ugly act without provoking threats to your life or every possession you have worked so hard for?

Sleepless nights

I spent a grand total of three sleepless nights running a monologue through my head and imagining every possible scenario, making sure that the words do not sound like they were scripted by whoever puts words in the mouth of Jean Garcia's soap-opera characters.

I went around asking everybody, "How am I going to do it without hurting my driver's feelings?" as if telling someone that he would now join the ever-growing ranks of the unemployed could possibly give a shot of thrill.

I have only been fired from a job once, and when I look back at that event, I found the words of that person who booted me out so predictable and rehearsed that he even seemed to inject a dosage of mock sympathy.

But then I guess that is the only route to take—not to mention the other alternative that is to assume the character of Cruella DeVille or any of the antagonists from "Matrix Reloaded."

Then somebody came up with what was perhaps the most logical solution: The best way to ease the pain of losing a job is separation pay in cash. Yeah, right. And so true.

When I finally had to sharpen the axe and aim it at the head of my driver of three years, the confrontation was not as dramatic as any before-the-gap *eksena* from "Maalaala Mo Kaya." Yes, the old man cried when I told him we had to part ways because it was not working out—and rather than to jeopardize our three years of togetherness, it was best that he rested and found another person more deserving of his services and qualities.

It was then that I also realized that it sounded like I was ending a relationship—or maybe any involvement with someone you let into your life (even just to get you to where you are going or take you home) is a relationship.

I wish I had that unflinching objectivity to make a clear-cut demarcation between someone working for you from someone involved in your life. But then again, if you invite any individual to share your home, gain access to personal information or even wait for hours while you are gallivanting through the corridors of a mall, wining and dining someone you want to impress or banging your head against the table during business meetings… you cannot help but take him into your heart.

Before the driver left, the housekeeper cried. When he said his goodbyes, even the dogs looked sad. Surrendering the car keys, we wished each other well then said our final farewells. Suddenly all the dents on the car, all the times we got lost because he had no interest in road maps, or even the times he made me wait for almost an hour because he had fallen asleep and did not hear his name shouted 17 times through the paging system seemed so trivial.

There must be a better way of doing this. And I know I can never learn or even come close to mastering the art of getting rid of people.

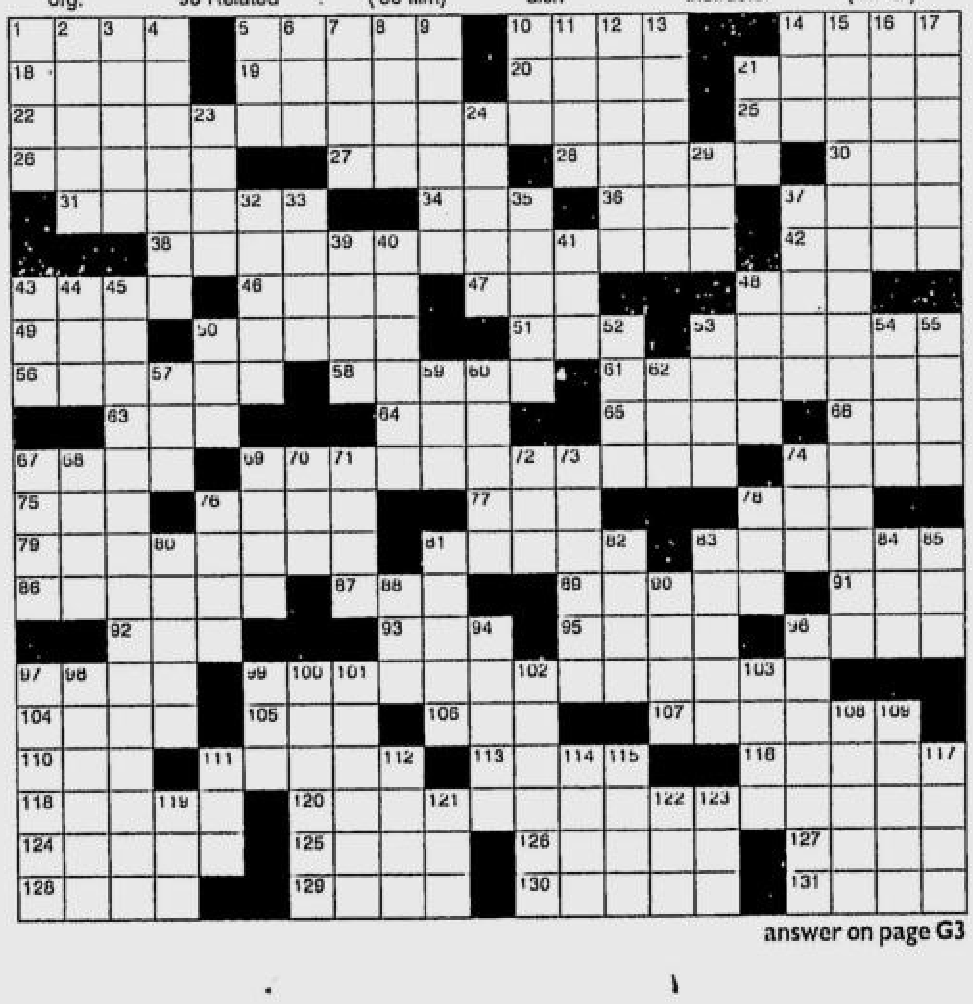
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Donna J. Stone

COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY

ACROSS
1 Dog star?
5 Iraqi city
10 "Norwegian —" ('65 song)
14 Act like Etna
18 Towel word
19 Startled cry
20 Feminist Belmont
21 — Gras
22 Elusive
25 Shun
26 Brando's birthplace
27 Part of ER
28 Synthetic textile
30 Exploit
31 Pipeline place
34 Fairway accessory
36 — es Salaam
37 Adored one
38 Relaxed
42 Scads
43 Future of the present
46 Be bombastic
47 Smash letters
48 Faux —
49 Unfashionable
50 Warehouse
51 Clean-air org.
53 Bog
56 Crested reptile
58 Vision
61 Novelist Carr
63 Lingerie item
64 "Blame It on —" ('84 film)
65 Flatfish
66 Directional suffix
67 Broccoli —
69 Sage
74 Melodious Marvin
75 — trip
76 Sitarist Shankar
77 "Xanadu" rockers
78 Cul-de- —
79 Disciplinarian
81 Sprite
83 Strauss opera
86 Fancy
87 Teacup part
89 Designer Carolyne
91 — -Magnon
92 Police acronym
93 Zilch
95 Monty Python's Eric
96 Related
97 Show off
99 Docile
104 Irish island group
105 Pressure meas.
106 K-O connectors
107 School supply
110 Cratchit kid
111 Sentinel
113 Zenith
116 "Beat it!"
118 Stir
120 Fit
124 Hilarious Hardy
125 Like some textbooks
126 Bean or Welles
127 A bit of Berlioz
128 Requirement
129 Baseball's Nolan
130 Wretched
131 "Confound it!"

DOWN
1 Comment from Chan
2 Actress Diamond
3 Experiment
4 "The — Jungle" ('50 film)
5 "Toodle-oo!"
6 Broadcast
7 — terrier
8 Enlarge a hole
9 Sometimes they're frozen
10 Pale
11 Dairy-case purchase
12 Go to extremes
13 Cowboys' home
14 Bankbook abbr.
15 Vain
16 New Jersey city
17 Very
21 TV's "Chico and the —"
23 El —, TX
24 Zones
29 Nev. neighbor
32 Asian nation
33 PDQ, politely
35 Wading bird
37 Japanese porcelain
39 "Dukes of Hazzard" deputy
40 Dress
41 "Alley —"
43 Luau dish
44 Holidayless mo.
45 Obstinate
48 Gdansk denizen
50 Genes designer?
52 Lhasa —
53 Grind grain
54 Nimble
55 Rational
57 Is for two
59 Actress Scala
60 Biblical book
62 "— sweet it is!"
67 San —, Italy
68 Thickening agent
69 Ebb
70 "— Gotta Be Me" ('69 hit)
71 Location
72 Clay, today
73 Karate-chopping Chuck
74 Four qts.
76 Rudner or Gam
78 Jaffe of 4 Down
80 Spoken for
81 Ruffle
82 Jedi instructor
83 Clip
84 Med. test
85 Tons of time
88 Tiny colonist
90 Model Macpherson
94 Paul of "Melvin and Howard"
96 Run away
97 Benefactor
98 Baltimore bird
99 Scholastic abbr.
100 Wet Williams
101 Well
102 Mainstay
103 Prepare potatoes
108 Blunder
109 Jamaican cultist
111 Elfin
112 "That's a scream!"
114 Dame Hess
115 Orient
117 Competition
119 Silly Caesar
121 China's — Biao
122 Tippler
123 "— Day Now" ('62 hit)



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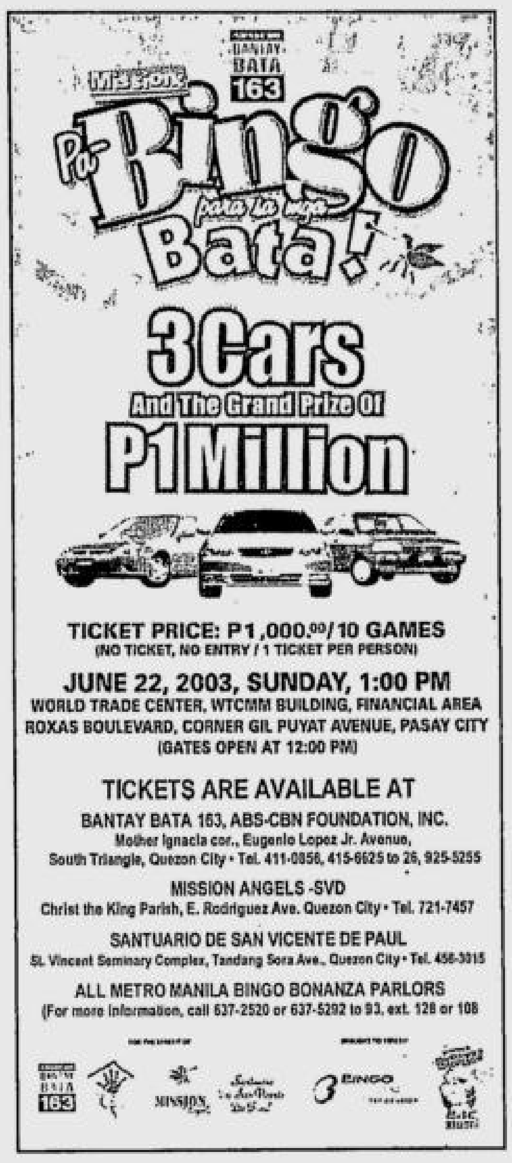
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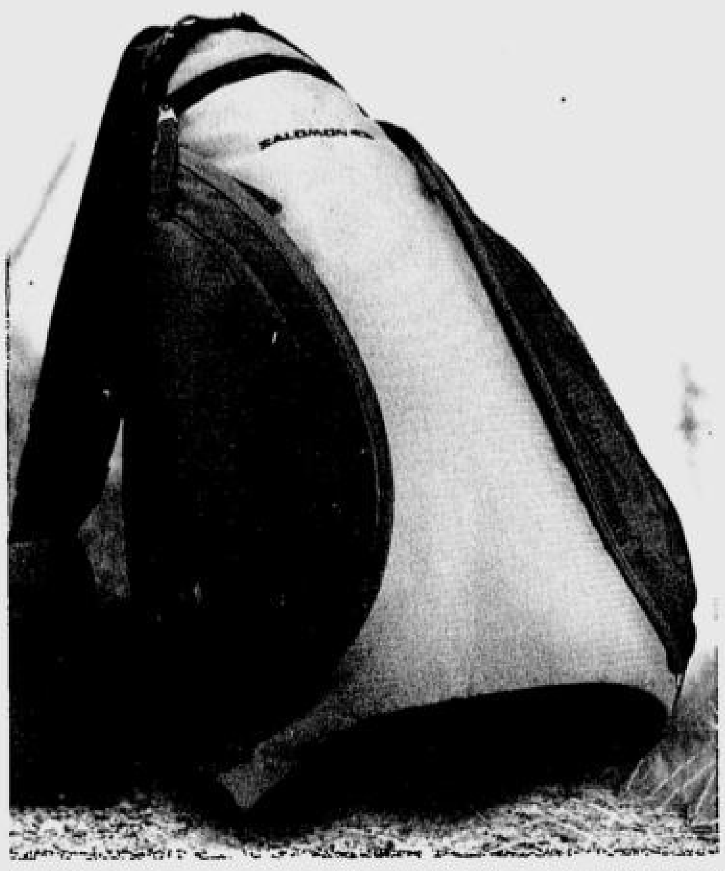

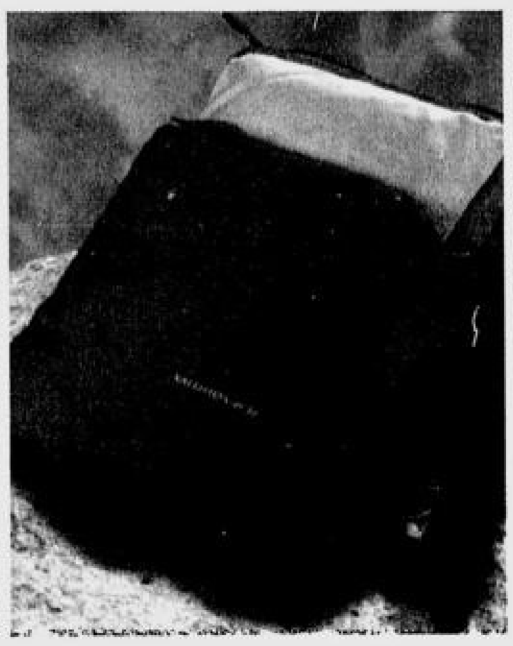

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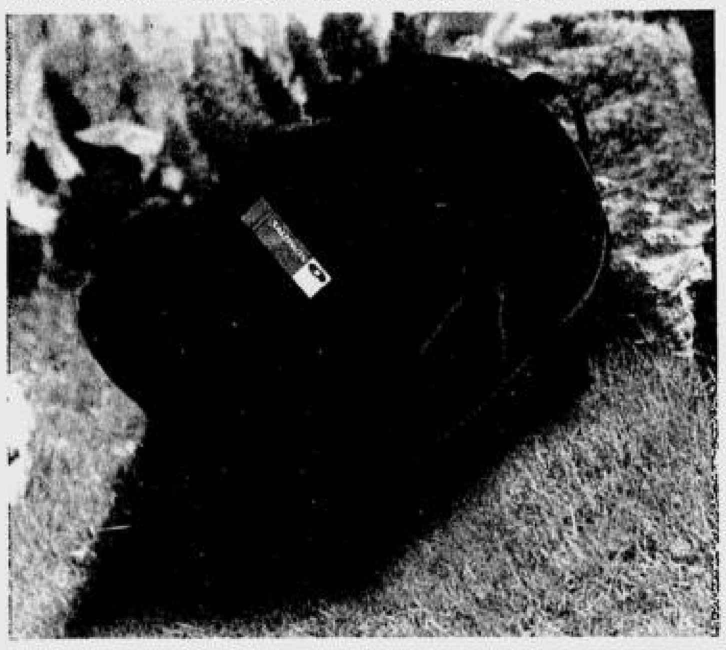

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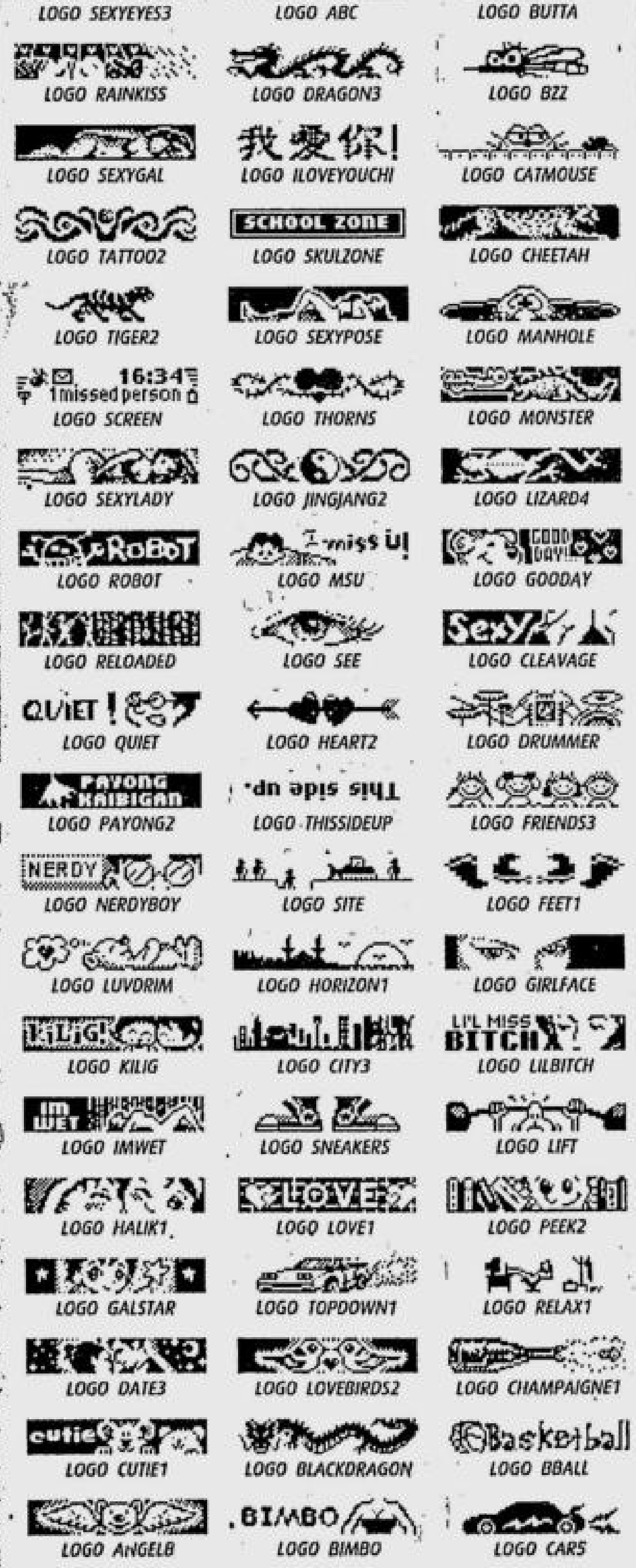

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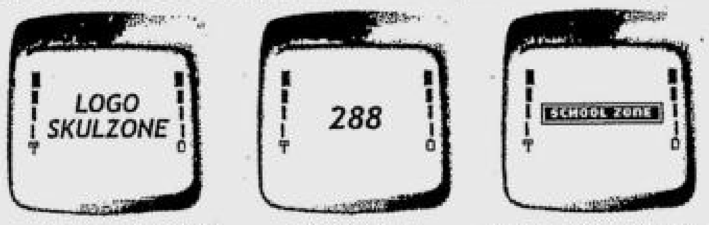

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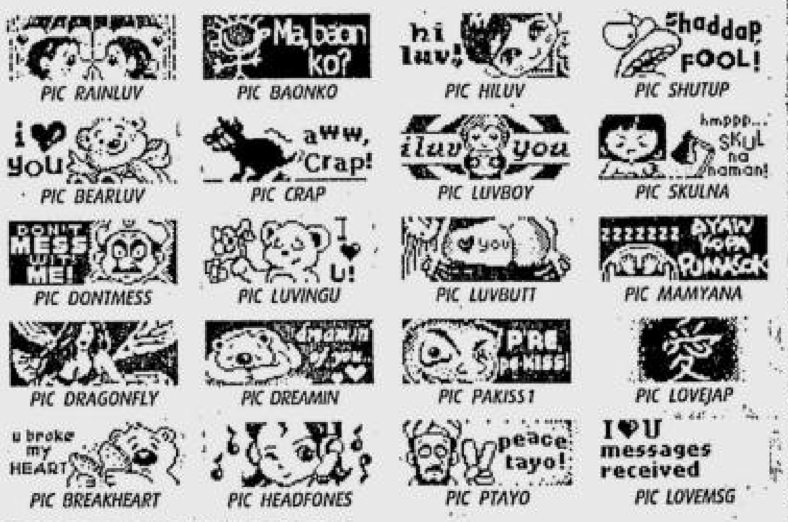

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PIC DRAGONFLY | PIC DREAMIN | PIC PAKISS1 | PIC LOVEJAP
PIC BREAKHEART | PIC HEADFONES | PIC PTAYO | PIC LOVEMSG

Ma, baon ko?
hi luv!
Shaddap, FOOL!
i love you
aww, Crap!
iluv you
hmppp... SKUL na naman!
DON'T MESS WITH ME!
I love U!
you
zzzzzzz AYAW KO PA PUMASOK
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Rhett Miller
TONE COMEARND

I'll Do Anything
Simple Plan
TONE DOANY

Gotta Get Through This
Daniel Bedingfield
TONE GOTTAGET

Hey Ma
Cam'ron
TONE HEYMA

Laundromat
Nivea
TONE LAUNDRO

Lose Yourself
Eminem
TONE LOSEYOUR

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TONE TELL

The Red
Chevelle
TONE THERED

This Side
Nickel Creek
TONE THISSIDE

Times Like These
Foo Fighters
TONE TIMES

Forevermore
Side A
TONE 4EVERMORE

All I Have
Jennifer Lopez
TONE ALLIHAVE

Bakit Papa
Sex Bomb
TONE BAKITPAPA

Dilemma
Nelly
TONE DILEMMA

Gossip Folks
Missy Elliot
TONE GOSSIP

In Da Club
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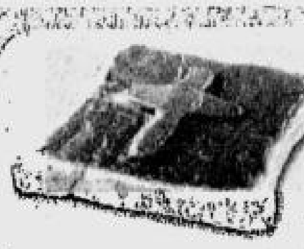

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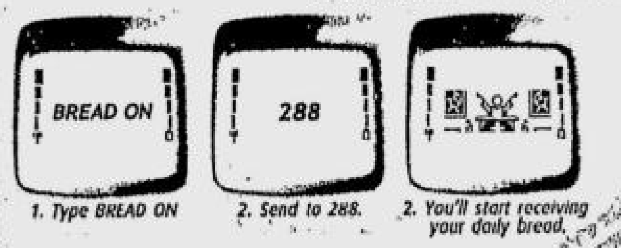

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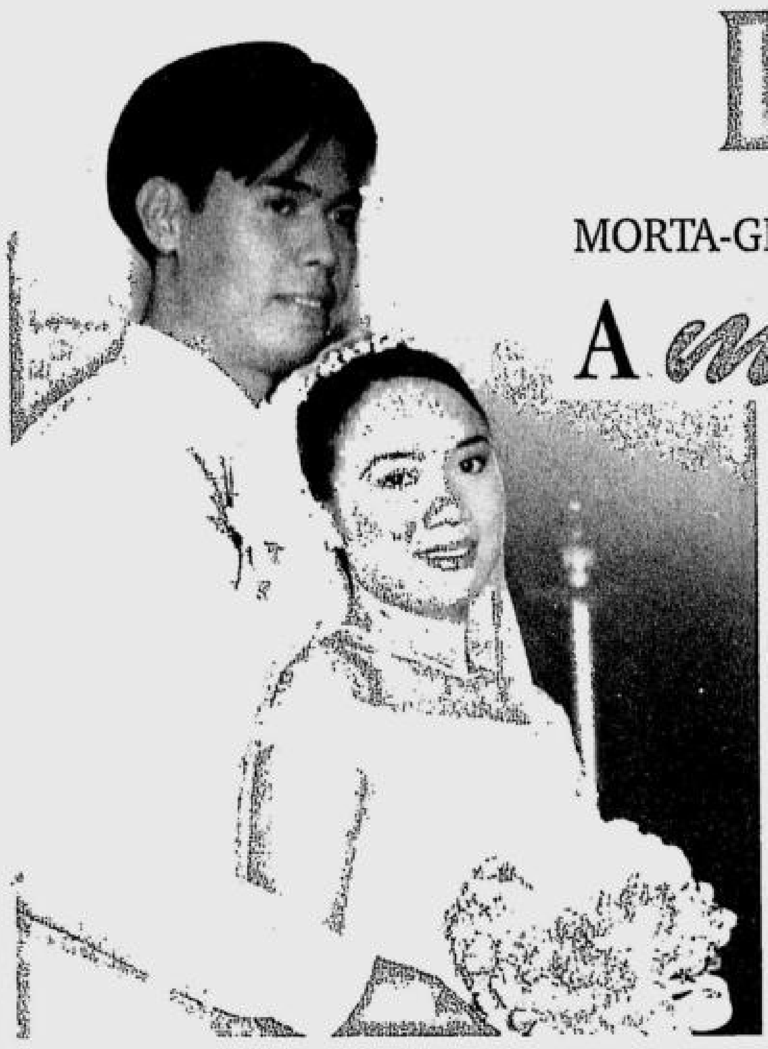
Sunday LifeStyle

Weddings & Engagements

MORTA-GREGORIO NUPTIALS

A match arranged by Miracle



NEWLYWEDS Teddy and Weng Morta (née Gregorio)

By Weng Gregorio-Morta
Contributor

I HAVE always dreamt of a perfect wedding and my dream came true when I married my "perfect" match on May 24 at the Our Lady of Remedies Parish (Malate Church).

Teddy and I first met when our mutual friends Jonathan and Miracle set us up on a date. We were supposed to meet during their son's christening, but I was unable to attend.

Our friends arranged a blind date on Feb. 12, 1999. The four of us watched the "Reminiscing" concert of David Pomeranz, Stephen Bishop and Michael Johnson. We hardly talked, maybe because we are both quiet and shy by nature. It was not love at first sight for me. After his call a few days later, we started sending each other cards and we dated.

After three years of togetherness, we decided to tie the knot. We had only about five months to prepare. I read local wedding magazines to look for suggestions. My parents—Rudy and Medy Gregorio (she was more excited than me)—and Primo and Eddy Morta, Teddy's parents, and friends were very helpful.

I stayed at Bayview Park Hotel with my mom, grandmother and matron of honor the night before the wedding. When the makeup artist, florist, videographer and photographer started to arrive, I felt a little nervous and tense. So I prayed to God to bless the most important day of my life.

I was excited and happy when I arrived at the Malate Church five minutes before 12 noon. I was wearing a gown I personally designed (I got the idea from a local magazine).

What happened afterward is a bit blurry now. I only remember walking down the aisle to David

A MATCH/G2

> 'Looking at the faces of friends and family, I felt like crying . . . My father cried, too'

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A match arranged by Miracle

SLICING of the wedding cake

From page G1

Pomeranz's song "Born for You" (our love song). Looking at the faces of my friends and family, I felt like crying. At the altar, before my dad gave my hand to Teddy, he embraced Teddy and cried. It must have been really hard to give away his only daughter.

Fr. Dennis V. Pepito officiated at the wedding. The principal sponsors were Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc, Benita del Rosario, Rosita Tiotangco, Aleli Requinala, Mina Caliguia, engineer Eufracio Rayala, engineer Daniel Gregorio Jr., Renato Reinoso, Abelardo Ulanday, Cesar Morta and Joel Rayala.

Best man was Richard Domingo (Teddy's classmate at the University of Santo Tomas). My matron of honor was Oracle Sumalpong. Secondary sponsors included my brother Roderick Gregorio, Ted's sister Joy Morta, our friends Abigail Santos, Arman Salvacion, Efcel Cruz, and my cousin Ma. Ferry Maglipon. The women wore blue-violet gowns.

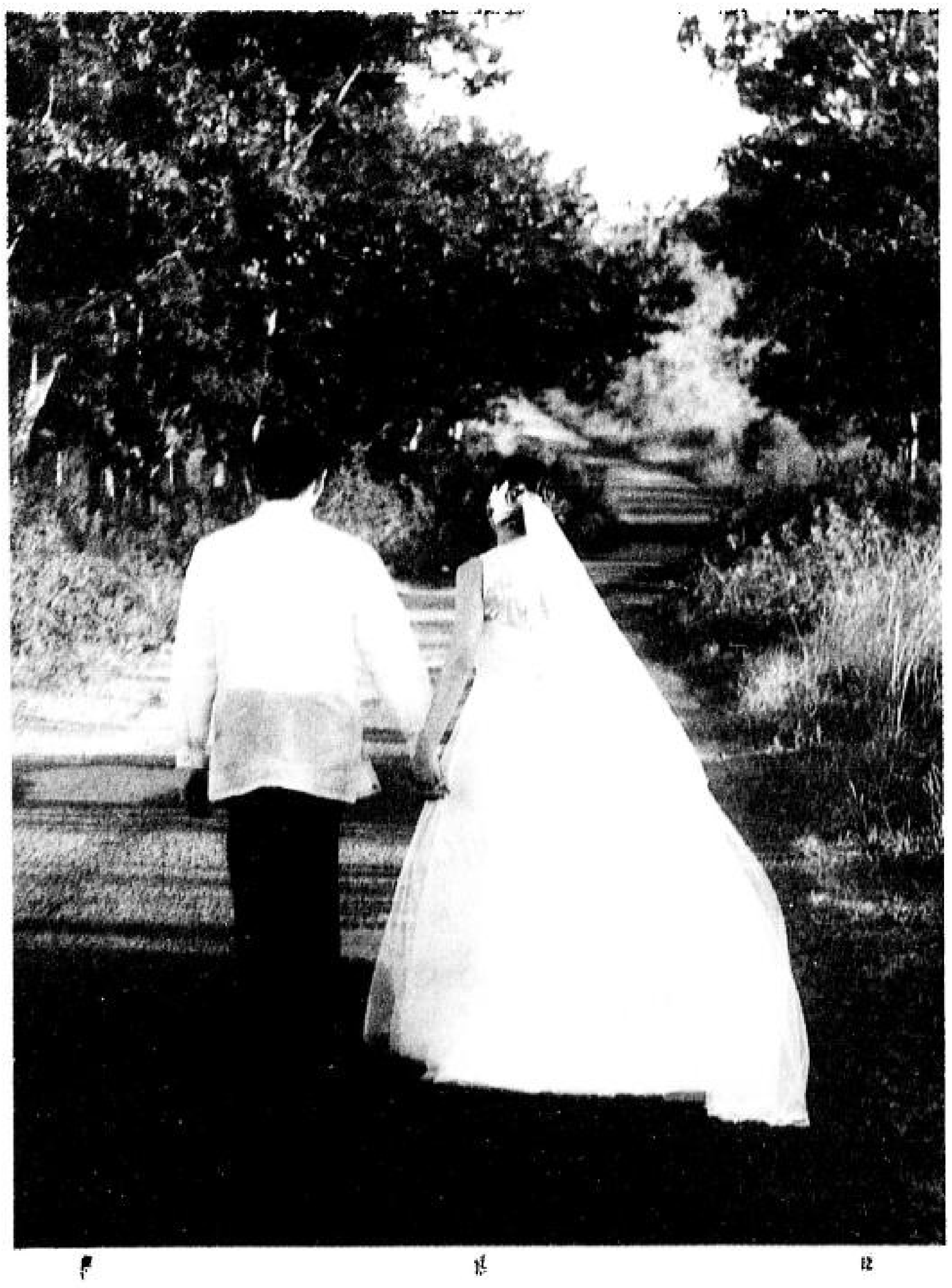
The reception for 200 guests was held at the Remedies Jubilee Mission Center. The buffet lunch was catered by Robert Camba.

WITH PARENTS (from left) Rodolfo and Remedios Gregorio, and Primo and Editha Morta

WITH SECONDARY sponsors Abi, Terry, Joy, Miracle, Richard, Efcel, Armen, Eric; kids: Mikline, Jet, Amam, Vincent and Riovy

WITH PRINCIPAL sponsors (from left) Rosita Tiotangco, Mina Caliguia, Emma Ramin, Benita del Rosario, Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc, Raymond Rivera, Abelardo Ulanday, Cesar Morta, engineer Daniel Gregorio Jr. and engineer Eufracio Rayola

Romantic storyteller in images



From page G4

"When I ask a couple to kiss for the camera, I want the kiss to be real so that the shot will be more beautiful and romantic."

Famous for his shadow shots, Pat employs the slow-shutter technique, more commonly known as motion blur. He also does non-traditional shots and collages in color, black and white and even sepia, which serve as accents in wedding albums. As much as possible, Pat also relies on natural lighting to create a more romantic yet earthy effect.

While he only does purely digital photography and employs only state-of-the-art equipment and techniques in his work, Pat says a good photographer should not rely heavily on computer enhancements and expensive equipment but should have a good camera technique and a genuinely artistic eye.

Today, he also does editorial work, particularly fashion shoots, but admits that nothing lets the spontaneity of shooting for weddings.

"There is no other event that tells a good story than a wedding. I guess I am a hopeless romantic and weddings make me feel good," says Pat.

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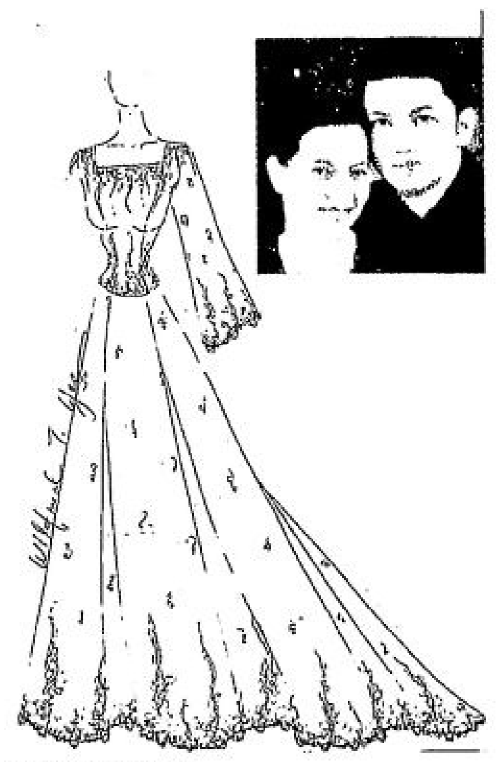
PAT Dy

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least two weeks before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.

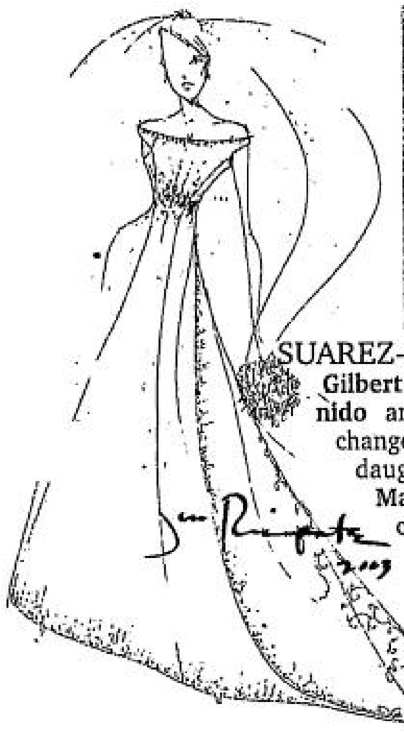
VINA-MARMITA

Glenn Michael Abrilla Vina, son of **Alberto Crisostomo and Ma. Teresa Vina**, will tie the knot with Dr. **Fritzie Caidoy Marmita**, daughter of **Luciloes and Conchita Marmita**, on June 23 at Nuestra Señora de Guia Parish Church. Reception will be held at Manila Orchidarium and Butterfly Pavilion.



IBAY-BIRUAR

Noah Raranga Ibay II, son of the late **Noah P. Ibay** and **Goldenia Monera B. Biruar**, will marry **Maleha Bajunaid Biruar**, daughter of **Datu Magsaysay B. Biruar** and **Bai Monera B. Biruar**, on June 28 at OND Convention Center, Awang, Dinaig, Maguindanao.



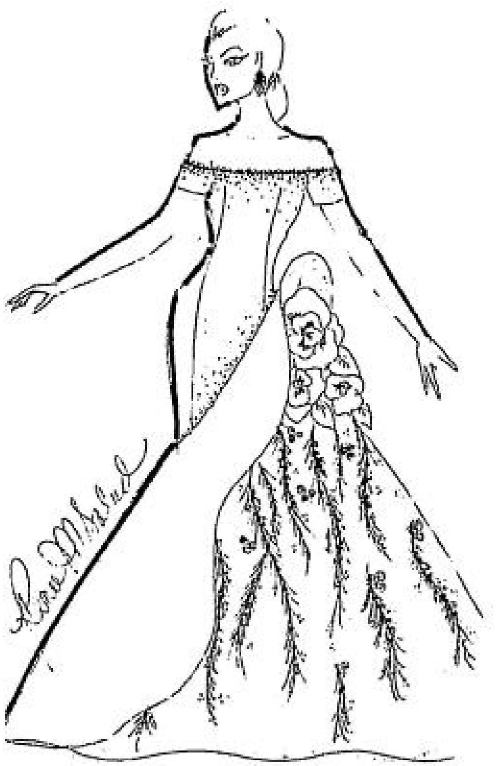
SUAREZ-MALLORCA

Gilbert Roland Suarez, son of **Fresnido** and **Leonila Suarez**, will exchange vows with **Josielyn Mallorca**, daughter of **Arturo** and **Teresita Mallorca**, on June 28 at St. Pancratius Chapel, Paco Park, Ermita, Manila. Reception will follow at Ilustrado Restaurant, Intramuros, Manila. The bride will wear a gown by **Jun Ricaforte**.

RAMOS DEBUT

Romela Irene Silva Ramos, daughter of **Enrico and Evangeline Ramos**, celebrated her 18th birthday on June 14 at the Rigodon Ballroom, The Peninsula Manila.

The debutante, a sophomore at the University of the Philippines, Diliman, wore a pink **Renée Salud** gown in Thai silk.



LIM-LIM

Stanley L. Lim, son of **Antonio and Lily Lim**, and **Rosalie S. Lim**, daughter of **Ramon and Leonila Lim**, were wed at the Manila Cathedral on June 15. Reception was held at Century Seafood Restaurant in Malate.

The bride wore a satin ball gown with halter neckline and Basque waist with rhinestones and crystal beads designed by **Edward Teng**.

AGNO-ALAYON

Ronald Agno and **Donabel Alayon** were married on June 14 at San Sebastian Cathedral, Lipa City. The groom is the son of **Renato and Amelia Agno** of Lipa City; the bride is the daughter of **Nestor** and **Agustina Alayon** of Rosario, Batangas.

OLAN-ALARCON

Jamie Olan, son of **Jaime** and **Armida Olan**, married **Me'an Alarcon**, daughter of **Adriano** and **Rosenda Alarcon**, on June 8 at Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Church, FAB Lipa City. Reception followed at Club Victorina, Baseview Homes, Lipa City.

PAGAYON-ALVIR

Capt. **Rommel S. Pagayon**, son of **Mr. and Ms Vicente Pagayon Jr.**, married recently **Monica B. Alvir**, daughter of **Mr. and Ms Gaspar Alvir** (deceased), at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Kalibo, Aklan.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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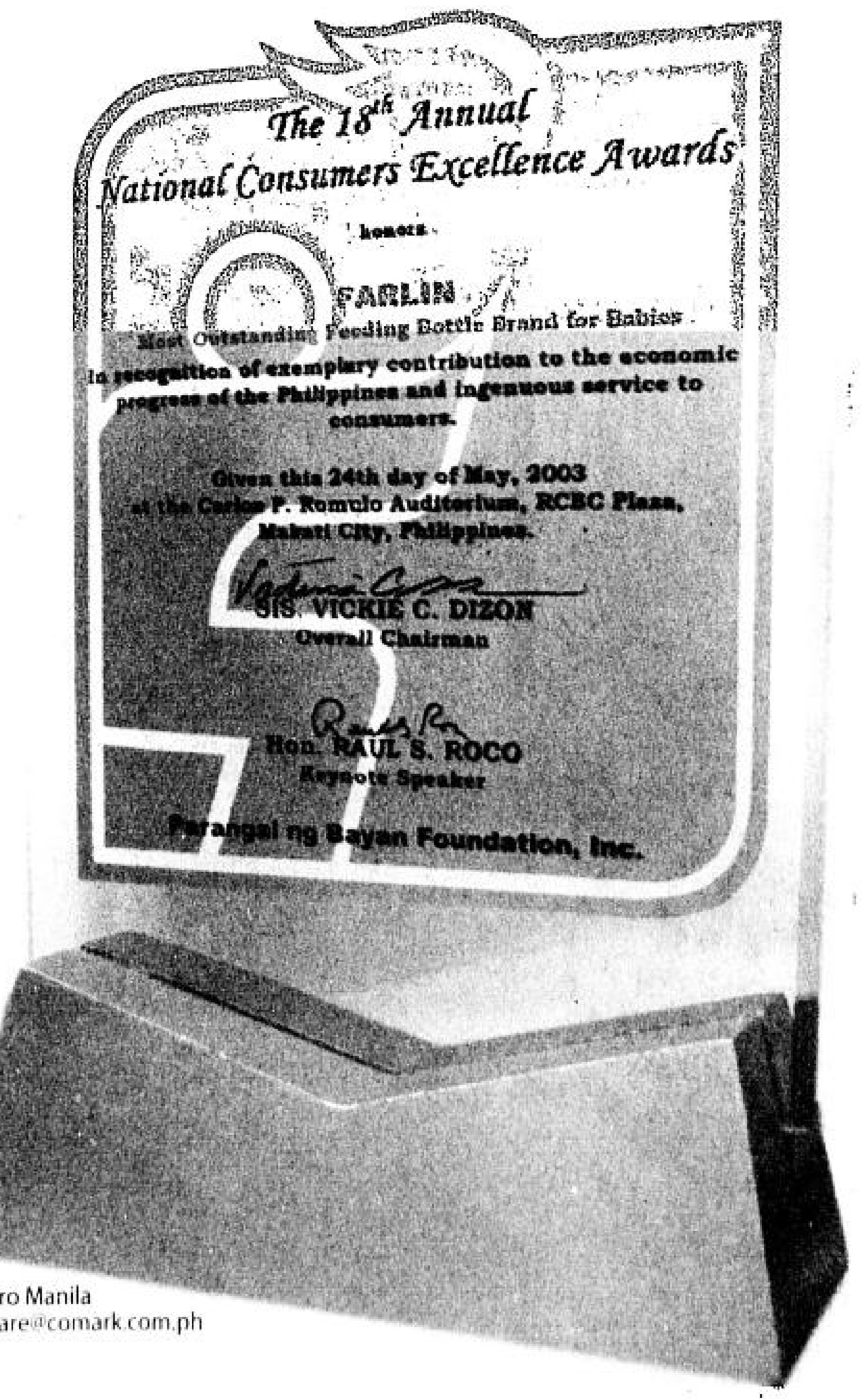

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Romantic storyteller in images

Photographer Pat Dy seeks to memorialize weddings for posterity

FOR PROFESSIONAL photographer Pat Dy, weddings are momentous events.

"I wouldn't want the bride to cringe with embarrassment when she shows her wedding pictures to her children years from now," Dy says. "So my style is not dated but elegant, modern and timeless."

Depending on the personality of the bride and groom, Pat's wedding shots can be non-traditional and even campy. Pat believes that his strength as a photographer is his genuine interest in people.

He is continuously amazed at the myriad of emotions seen during weddings—joy, sadness, envy and even indifference. Patrick always reminds himself that he is a wedding chronicler, someone who tells a story in pictures.

With his inborn artistry and flawless camera technique, Pat is one of the country's top upcoming photographers.

Even when he asks his couples to pose, he always wants spontaneity. Pat explains:

ROMANTIC/ G2

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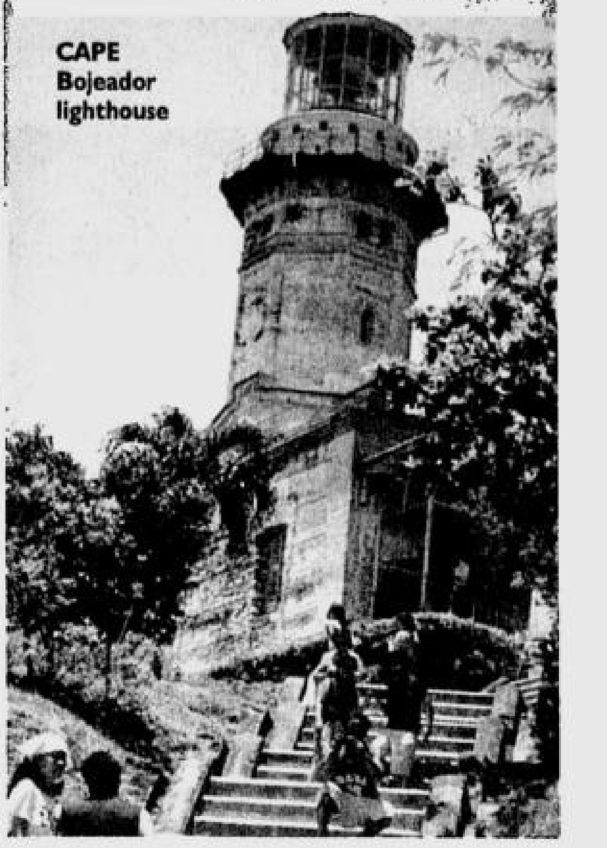


CAPE Bojeador lighthouse

More than fluff, frippery and Imelda

Text by Constantino C. Tejero
Photos by Raul Teehankee

Austere splendor, Iluko ceremoniousness and heritage consciousness combine to make the Governor's Ball truly memorable

GOV. BONGBONG Marcos and wife Lisa Araneta

"THIS is the first Governor's Ball in Ilocos Norte, perhaps even in the whole country," declared Ilocos Norte Gov. Ferdinand "Bongbong" R. Marcos Jr., during his welcome address at the Independence Day gala in the Grand Ballroom of Fort Ilocandia Resort Hotel in Laoag City.

Recalling he had been told there used to be such a ball before the war, he replaced that with: "Welcome to the first Governor's Ball of the millennium!" Thus, he opened the party.

It was a strictly formal affair, with the guests in barongs and gowns (jewelry optional). Art patrons, provincial officials, media personalities and some notables from Manila and Northern Luzon graced the occasion.

"It's nice to see people in their finery," said the governor. The guest of honor, former First Lady Imelda Marcos, mother of the governor, was in her signature *terno* in cobalt-blue.

Dinner was sumptuous, belying the Ilocano reputation for frugality: smoked mackerel and salmon with caviar; *lumpiang sariwa at binagoongang manggang berde*; seafood *sinigang sa kamias*; chicken *relleno* with honey and grapes; *bibingka* Ilocos, *tocino del cielo*, ripe mango, and wine, wine, wine.

Folk dances and songs entertained the diners, until the pop and R&B band Degree took over for the dance.

The dinner-dance was a fundraiser of Gameng Foundation, which is chaired by Liza Araneta Marcos, the governor's wife. The foundation aims to preserve Ilocos Norte's wealth of cultural heritage. *Gameng* is Ilocano for "treasure."

The gala was held for the benefit of Museo Ilocos Norte, considered the province's most significant bastion of heritage.

This former *tabacalera* warehouse near the capitol had been transformed into a museum showcasing the cultural heritage of the Ilocanos, Yapayaos, Isnegs, Igorots and other citizens of the province. Its symbol, a many-rayed sun, was inspired by a finial at the back of the 19th-century church in San Nicolas town.

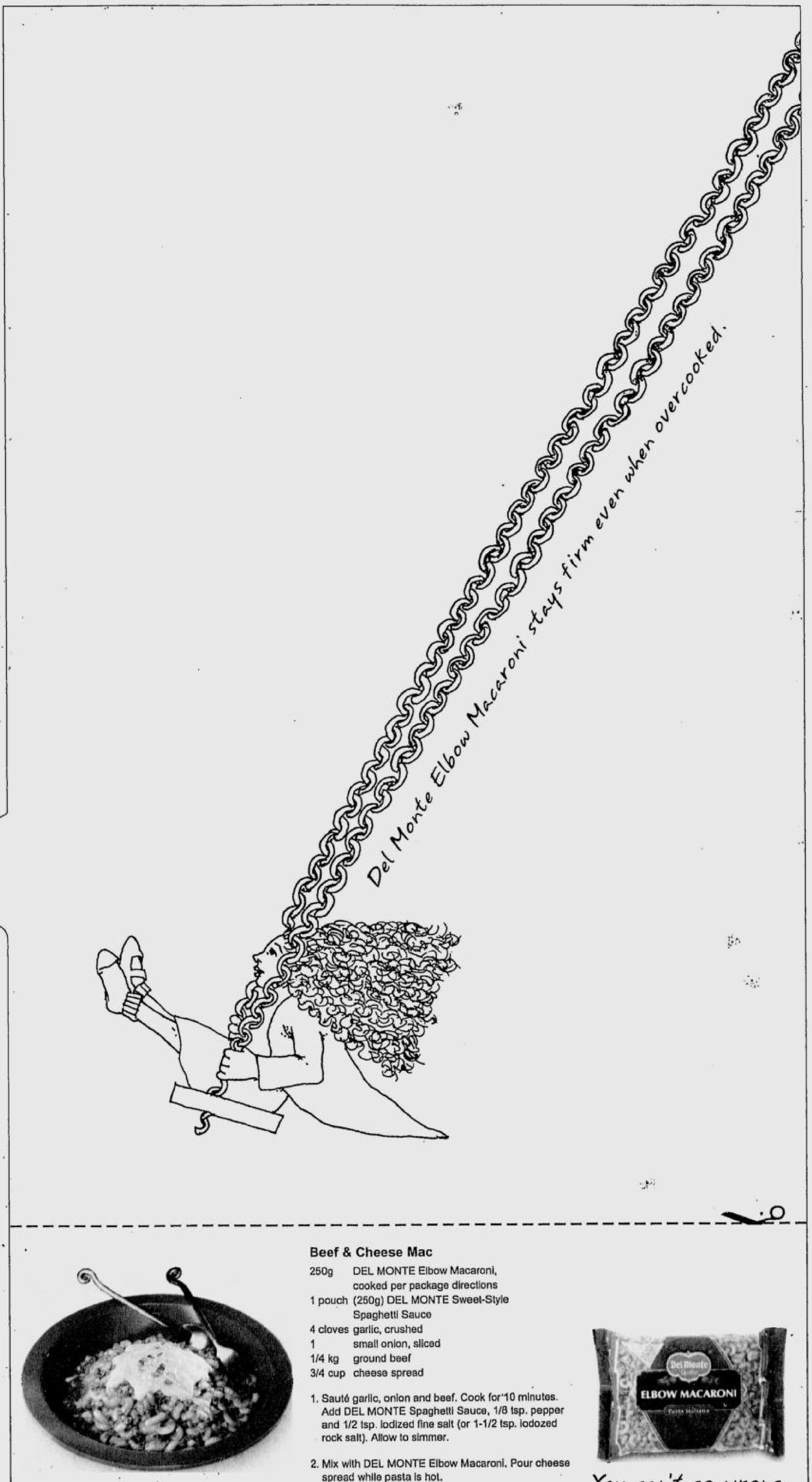
The museum is a historical structure, as it was once the administrative center of the tobacco monopoly in the province during the Spanish era. It now houses archaeological relics and artifacts from the province's 22 towns and one city, archival materials, art ex-

MORE/ H2

BONITO Singson and Maripaz Ortega

EMCEES Eddie Mercado and Lito Gorospe

FORT Ilocandia owners Jack Lam with Atty. Chung



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Beef & Cheese Mac

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1 pouch	(250g) DEL MONTE Sweet-Style Spaghetti Sauce
4 cloves	garlic, crushed
1	small onion, sliced
1/4 kg	ground beef
3/4 cup	cheese spread

1. Sauté garlic, onion and beef. Cook for 10 minutes. Add DEL MONTE Spaghetti Sauce, 1/8 tsp. pepper and 1/2 tsp. iodized fine salt (or 1-1/2 tsp. iodozed rock salt). Allow to simmer.

2. Mix with DEL MONTE Elbow Macaroni. Pour cheese spread while pasta is hot. Makes 6 servings.

You can't go wrong.

French Spring wows us again

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ARGENTINIAN Ambassador Mario Schuff and Dutch Ambassador Theo Arnold

JAPANESE Ambassador Kojiro Takano and Dominique Dufour of the International Red Cross

ISRAELI Ambassador [illegible] Ben Abba and Norwegian Ambassador [illegible] Moe

EDUARD Mialhe, Thierry Delonguemar and Sevrin Mialhe

FRENCH Spring 2003 literally opened with a bang, with concert pianist **Greg Zuniega** performing arpeggios, trills and robust, energetic allegros on the ivory keys.

His repertory included select pieces of European (Chopin and Schumann) and Filipino (Buencamino) composers.

The second part of the evening was a visual spectacle of dance by Le Cabaret Kuya, a young company of collaborating French and Filipino dance artists, including **Guillaume Compain** and **Sandra Falcone-Agostini**, that wowed the audience with its sense of fun.

The theme of cultural diversity was evident in the program that featured Filipino and French artists. It was truly SRO at the buffet prepared by a visiting Cordon Bleu French chef, to the delight of the guests like **Beth Day Romulo**, Wonder Woman **Nedy Tantoco**, who juggles all kinds of charitable committees and benefits, not to mention running a business, **Patrick Jacinto**, **Tony** and **Mita Rufino**, **Heather Fortun** of the Canadian Embassy, Indian Ambassador **Nevrekha Sharma**, International architect **Jun Palafox**, who is defending the indefensible, Portuguese Ambassador **Joao** and **Ulrike Da Silva**, **Fr. Gabriel Casal**, who exchanged views with his successor at the National, **Cora Alvina**, and the hundreds of others who look forward every year to this treat for all the senses presented by the French Embassy.

You must admit that the French Ambassador and our host, **Renee Veyret**, is really game. There was the lady at the launch of the festival at the Captain's Bar of the Mandarin jamming with a group of Filipino jazz musicians, playing a sax!

***

French Spring's grand opening was followed by the start of the film festival at the Podium in Ortigas, where the wine flowed freely, the hors d'ourves from

DIPLOMATIC SWIRL

By Amiga

The cultural event we all look forward to every year more than made up for the inclement June weather

Bizu Patisserie disappeared in a thrice and those who had come to see Deneuve ended up watching Depardieu in an adaptation of the comic book series "Asterix et Obelix: Mission Cleopatre."

Certainly one of the highlights of the festival was the sit-down dinner the following week at Mandarin's Tivoli Grill prepared by a visiting Cordon Bleu chef.

Again, host French Ambassador Renee Veyret, elegant and erudite as usual, presided over a lovely experience that started off with herbed vegetables in pastry with a tomato Sabayon sauce, followed by gratinated leeks a' l'orange and an excellent red mullet paired with crispy leeks and parsley coulis, and finally a tender lamb fillet.

By the time the dessert of piña colada and pineapple fritters came along, I was ready to say "Surrender."

Naturally the marvellous dishes were all complemented by excellent red and white wines from the Rodet and Chapoutier vineyards. All of which made up for all that dreadful June weather, traffic and floods.

The Podium
8TH FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL
June 5 to 15, 2003
JEAN Claude Ching, Martin Macalintal, Louie Paul Heusoff and French Ambassador Renee Veyret

PHOTOS: BETOY JOHNSON

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AFP Bureau Chief P. Parameswaran and Swedish Ambassador Ulf Hakannson

PAKISTAN Ambassador and Mme. Hussien Al-Kazmi with Olga Martel

NINI Pinlac, Ping Valencia and Arlene de Guzman

NONONG Marcos

TEXAN lawyer James Linn

WILSON Lee Flores

IMELDA Marcos photographed at Suba Beach

More than fluff, frippery and Imelda

GSIS curator Eric Zerrudo

DEGREE band manager Calvin Chua

From page H1

hibitions, even a full-scale replica of the Ilocano ancestral house.

In 2001, the National Commission for Culture and the Arts gave it the Alab ng Haraya Award for Outstanding Cultural Conservation Program (Adaptive Reuse).

The Governor's Ball was more than just fluff and frippery then, beyond wine and music, as the Ilocanos are into serious business. Their landscape is dotted with cultural structures and artifacts that are meant to be preserved (such as the Paoay church and bell tower, now on the Unesco World Heritage list).

In a private dinner hosted by the governor the following day on Suba Beach in the outskirts of the city, Liza Marcos happily reported that the gala raised some P400,000. The proceeds would be used to help augment the museum's operational expenses and improve its exhibits.

(Again, the private dinner was a sumptuous dinner. And there was the stunning Imelda, in emerald-green.)

ILOCOS Norte Dance Arts Troupe performing at the Independence Day Ball

COOKIE Villanueva, Patricia Barcelon, Ethel T. and Michaela Fenix observe the preparation.

ERNIE Villavicencio and Ruel Vernal with Vicky Teodoro, Regina Santos and Fatimah

COORDINATING team for the Ilocos trip: Edsel Ignacio, photographer Pierre Cruz and Martin Romualdez from BSMG

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PLAY Underground main players, host Pinky Amador, Ernie and Jeena Lopez, event director Danny Jota and Salomon manager Eric de Mesa

EXPLOSIVE opening by Tribu percussionists

SHARING the gold, Lissa Lesaca and Ina Flores

YOUTH REIGNS. Champion Igi-boy Lagda

PEARL of the Pacific, Mr. and Ms Sanson

FORM and strength, Jeena Lopez in motion

From social climbing to sport climbing

TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

BEAUTY before form, Sea Princess ready to climb

SPORTS Unlimited, Dyan Castillejo checking the rope

CLIMBER scaling the wall at Play Underground

TEAM Play Underground and Philippine team, Shane Buzon warming up

TRIATHLETE cross training, Mon Marchan trekking up Mt. San Cristobal

WHEN women reach their 40s, I think God blesses them with extra willpower as a bonus to compensate for everything that starts to sag or expand. No matter how much I work out, it is getting more difficult to burn that chocolate crème pie I binged on at 2 a.m. while watching the AXN Eco Challenge (my next goal!). Will is that extra boost needed to go on with life, since one knows that the 23-inch waistline is now just the circumference of one's thigh or that perky breasts are no longer attainable through proper diet and are unfortunately subject to gravity. Plus, when filling up forms, the age blank now remains blank.

Last year when I took my kids for their eye check-up, the doctor at the Asian Eye Institute told me upon knowing my age that I should not be too fearful but my eyesight is bound to deteriorate by the time I turn 40. Well, thanks for the encouraging words, Doc! Now I know the inevitable.

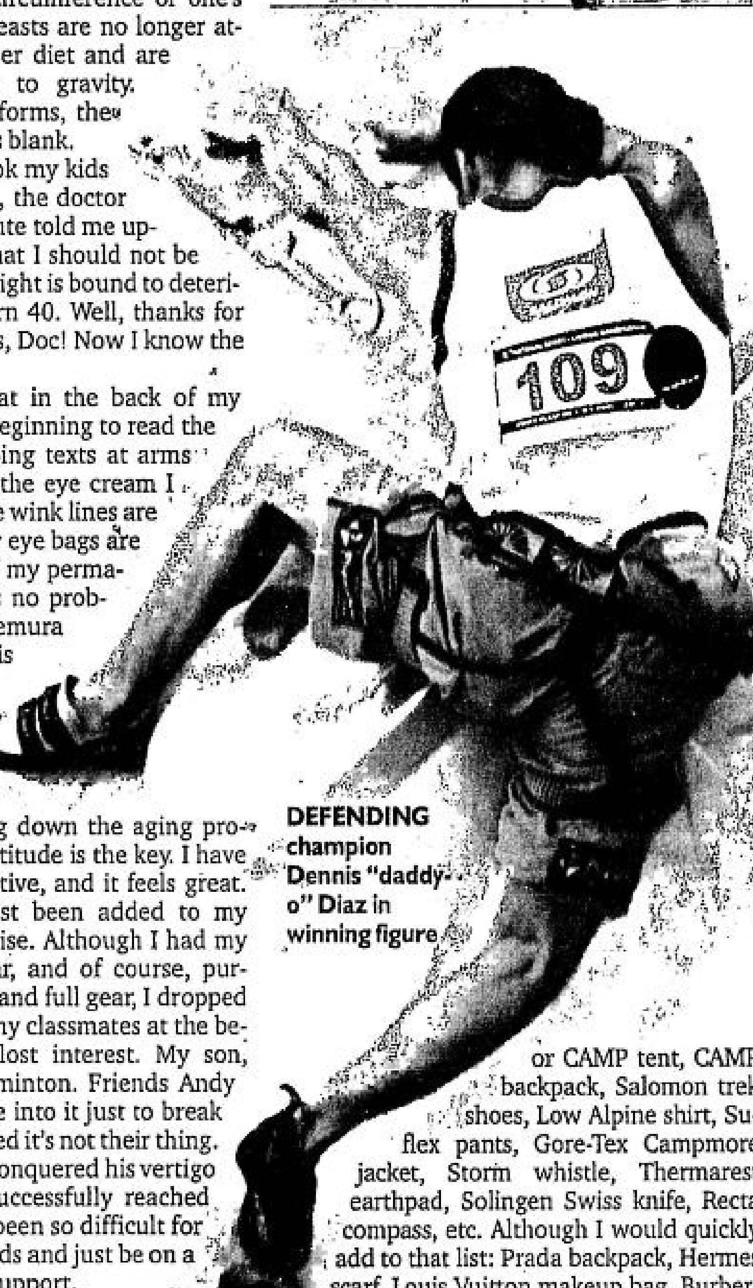
Of course, with that in the back of my head, I noticed I was beginning to read the menu further and typing texts at arms length. Even with all the eye cream I slap onto my face, little wink lines are beginning to show. My eye bags are a mainstay because of my permanent jet lag but that's no problem, thanks to Shu Uemura Eye Concealer, which is my exact skin color. It seemingly gives the impression that I spent half the day in bed.

There is no slowing down the aging process, but, but, but... attitude is the key. I have started being more active, and it feels great. Wall climbing has just been added to my weekly forms of exercise. Although I had my lessons early this year, and of course, purchased my rock shoes and full gear, I dropped the sport because all my classmates at the beginners' course just lost interest. My son, Bryan, preferred badminton. Friends Andy and Kitty Jacinto were into it just to break into a sweat but realized it's not their thing. In fact, Andy bravely conquered his vertigo somehow when he successfully reached the top. It must have been so difficult for him to grab nipple holds and just be on a safety rope as his life support.

He survived the climb, profusely sweating throughout, although now, he has gotten into running, something closer to the ground. These days, he is in great shape and looking fit at 42 (though the notice at the door read "32nd birthday party of Andy"). On his birthday early this month, Jay and Malu Gamboa orchestrated a night of delicious food and a great setting at the Milky Way Bar.

Terminology

Rock-climbing is apparently different from wall or sport climbing. My new breed of triathlete friends has exposed me to the right terminology of this sport. If done outdoors on a natural wall, it's rock-climbing. If done indoors on an artificial wall, it's the other. If it's mountain climbing you're into, the proper term is mountain backpackers or trekkers ("mountaineer" is only for Swiss Alps or Kathmandu level or higher). But the best term and what I do incidentally is social climbing. This refers to backpackers who use only branded mountain gear and outdoor apparel—North Face or CAMP tent, CAMP backpack, Salomon trek shoes, Low Alpine shirt, Suflex pants, Gore-Tex Campmore jacket, Storm whistle, Thermarest earthpad, Solingen Swiss knife, Recta compass, etc. Although I would quickly add to that list: Prada backpack, Hermes scarf, Louis Vuitton makeup bag, Burberry raincoat, Swatch watch, Gucci loafers... and last but definitely not the least, Xavier boa feathers.


DEFENDING champion Dennis "daddy-o" Diaz in winning figure

Adventure couple

When adventure couple Ernie and Jeena Lopez of Play Underground in Rockwell invited me to join the celebrity (yes, I guess I now fall in that category since they didn't have a social-climbers) division of the Climbmax 9th National Sport Climbing Competition, I gladly obliged because my new gear was just collecting dust on the upper cabinets where I couldn't even reach them. My mustard Stealth rock shoes were so tight and compact, they were misplaced among the shoes of my five-year old daughter, Annika. They were designed that way for better grip on the different-sized toeholds. The Chinese Imperial Court ladies would have made great climbers with their deformed feet already in shape for these kinds of shoes.

Within minutes of the climb, you are already sweating. The workout promotes total body fitness. Novice climbers become likely candidates for Advil, as every muscle in the body is put under pressure and tension. Illac Diaz and I climbed simultaneously along the easy, ladder-like holds level. Since it was not challenging at all, I was headed toward the more inclined level, but realized my wig was beginning to feel heavy and worse, itchy. So, I just conversed with the women's final winners, Lissa Lesaca and Ina Flores, who tied for first place. The latter turned out to be the daughter of Malen Flores, my co-golfer in Tagaytay Highlands. Yuck! I know her parents. Now, I felt old once again.

Catch-22

The winner of the men's division was not even a man but a kid. Igi-boy Lagda must have been only 13 but is ranked No. 1 on the Philippine team. He was climbing like a monkey jiving to his chosen rock music. Where can we buy youth? Dennis "daddy-o" Diaz, last year's winner, placed second but promised to train to win it again. These athletes have to resort to supporting themselves even if they are ranked in the top 5 in the country. Unfortunately, the Philippines Sports Commission will only send funds if they place first or second in international competitions. But how will they gain experience if they don't compete in the first place? It's really a Catch-22 situation.

My only suggestion after climbing is to use major hand lotion and apply this frequently. And say goodbye to your nails. It's a good thing I was in the photo-op section of the race, so I just did the glam climb and kept my brand new nail polish intact. Another tip—buy your own harness because it's most comfortable that way. Unfortunately, harnesses don't come in pink, so I had to settle for the functional black color.

After the competition, all the climbers trekked toward Dish for the awarding and fashion show. Pinky Amador brought the house down with her total performance. Together on stage were the Tribu Percussionists playing hip modern ethnic grooves. Some climbers did the ramp thing for a mini fashion show of their cool hip wear. But with the open navel look, I think a visit to Dr. Vicky Belo is due, especially if all forms of exercise don't work.

Earlier this year, I "social-climbed" Mt. Pulag. According to an e-mail I received from Benny Gene of New York, the correct name is Mt. Pulog, pronounced by US Army and their geodetic surveyors as Mt. Pulag. He also informed me about a latrine northeast of the campsite, just in case I do another adventure there. Apparently, my butt exposure at 3 a.m. was not the proper thing to do, but with that frame of mind, massive headache, hunger, cold, tired and dizzy, doing your business in the fastest way was the only option. But I shall remember Benny's advice if and when that climb happens again. In the meantime, please be warned of the small bush in the center of the campsite.

When Dr. Max Badoy read that same article, he e-mailed me to express his amazement that the trek to Mt. Pulog can now be done overnight unlike when he used to do it in the '80s, which required careful planning and packing to fit five days of necessary equipment and logistics into your backpack. One of the founding members of the UST Mountaineering Club, Dr. Max must have been shocked that I survived that climb, but I could not have done that without my sherpas.

HOW high can you go?

Next conquest

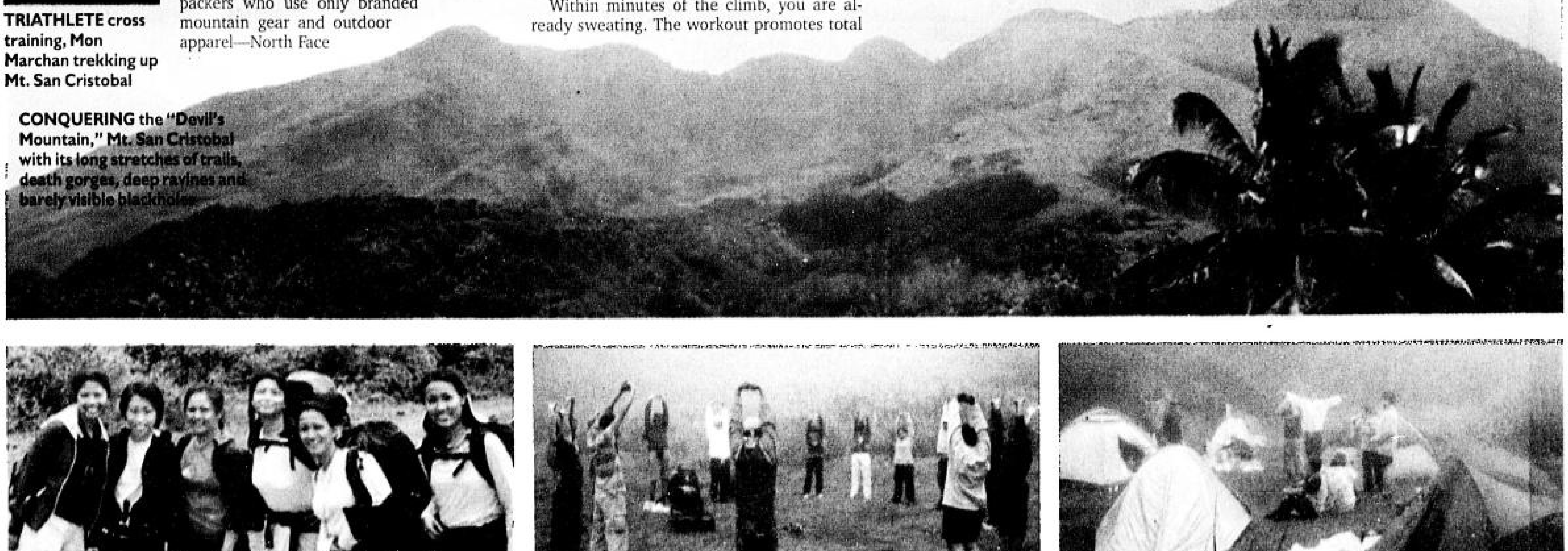
My next mountain to conquer will be 1,500-meter high Mt. San Cristobal, known as the "Devil's Mountain." It is called as such because it is supposed to be the opposing negative force of its neighbor, Mt. Banahaw, a holy and mystic mountain. Located in Quezón Province, I have only been to the holy side when I spent a yoga weekend with Bela Lipat in the hillside house of Jeannie Javelosa.

The Metro Adventure and Recreation Club bravely did the expedition on Friday the 13th. When asked if there were any mysterious encounters, Mon Marchan said that after a four-hour cardiac uphill climb carrying 45 pounds of mountain gear and with the heart pumping at 95 percent MHR (maximum heart rate), "you don't even care if the devil himself is sleeping beside you." I guess this is one wholesome group such that even if the girls slept around in the tents of different men, nothing exciting would have happened. They get their wild adventure from the great outdoors. I wouldn't mind getting mine, too, but of course, bringing along my husband Dennis, my trusty sherpas and a portable heater—each to provide me what I need in order to "get mine." Anyway, get into their website, www.adventure.com.ph, and check out their adventure programs.

So whether the thrill is wall or rock climbing, mountain trekking, or my fave, social climbing, the important thing is to get that butt moving.

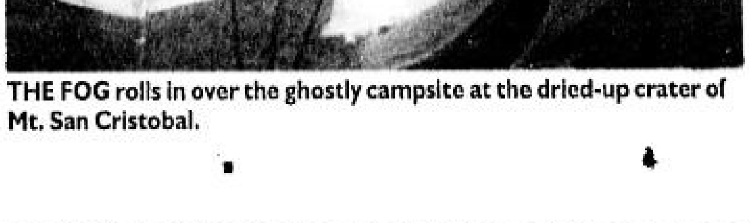
E-mail the author at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph.

NO sherpas for these folks: Mon Cruz, Rosas Du, Mon Marchan and Francis Libatique


CONQUERING the "Devil's Mountain," Mt. San Cristobal with its long stretches of trails, death gorges, deep ravines and barely visible blackholes

ADVENTURE girls with trekking power, Meann Papey, Cathy Yan, Liza Salido, Rosas Du, Elena Lino and Aireen Navarro

STRETCHING at early dawn before trekking four hours down the "Devil's Mountain"


THE FOG rolls in over the ghostly campsite at the dried-up crater of Mt. San Cristobal.

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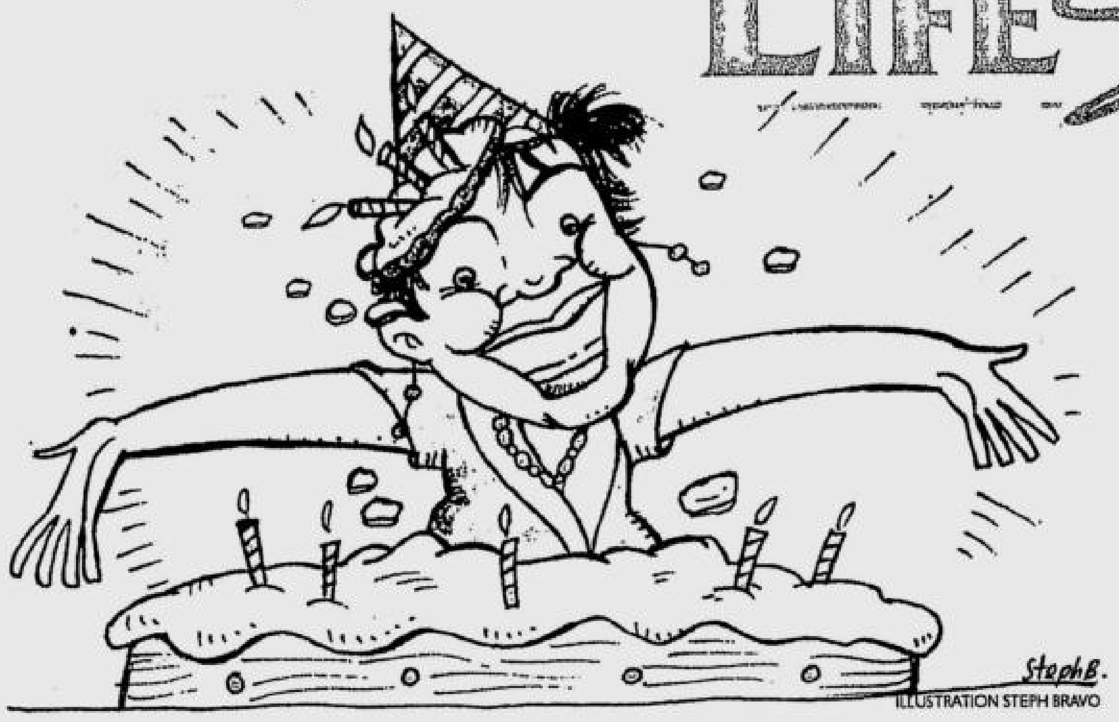

ILLUSTRATION STEPH BRAVO

Forever patsy

By Gilda Cordero-Fernando
Contributor

I COULD never understand practical jokes. As a kid I would cry whenever I watched movies of the Three Stooges bopping each other with pails and hammers and ladders and what not. Ever the straight guy, I could not fathom what was so hilarious about someone slipping on a banana peel or getting the rug pulled from under his feet.

Well, when you gotta learn something in your life you can be sure the universe will slap it like a pie in your face. That's how I got sucked into this gang of practical jokers. Painter Onib (Olmedo) and environmentalist Odette (Alcantara) were forever inventing jokes that made us crack up with laughter. They were good to quote in articles so I hung on. I got to be really fond of them and of Fe (Arriola) and her ad man husband Manny who were practical jokers of the first water, going to great lengths to achieve their (to me) unfunny ends. Museum director Cora (Alvina), painter Allan (Cosio) and newsman Nestor (Mata) were their enthusiastic conspirators. I was and still am their favorite patsy.

Birthday attacks

It was always my birthday date they targeted. The first surprise birthday party (attack) they decided to give me was during the protest years of the early '80s. It was chic to be leftist and so, of course, we were. Jose Ma. Sison, founder of Kabataang Makabayan, was still seen as the savior of the masses. On my birthday the Terrible Gang invited a whole slew of activists to Luigi's on Tomas Morato to purportedly for an "underground" press conference by Sison who, they said, was secretly in town. (He wasn't.) I had met columnist Amando Doronila the day before and tipped him off about it. I would have notified my buddy Eggie Apostol about "the scoop," too, but couldn't get to her.

Came the appointed afternoon. It was dark when I stepped into the restaurant. There was a small streamer of Joma Sison. I was elated. So subversive! On the tables sat most of the activists we street-marched with—Maita Gomez, Dado and Techie Capellan, Onib Olmedo, Manny and Fe Arriola (looking like cats who swallowed the canary), Marivic Dizon, Daphne Ceniza, Olive and Boy Tripon and important newshens like Letty Magsanoc and Lorna Tirol. Editor Eggie Apostol walked nonchalantly in, saying accusingly, "How come you tipped Doro off about this conference but not me?"

Then the lights went on. Everyone looked at one singing the happy birthday song as a poster reading "Happy Birthday Tandang Sora" was unveiled. I was aghast. Late but business-like, Doronila sauntered in with a young reporter in tow, asking bewilderedly, "What's going on? Where's the press conference? Where's Joma?" And it was only my birthday! I could have clobbered Odette and Peng with a chafing dish.

FOREVER/ I2

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MASSIVE welcome arrangement uses large anthuriums.

EYE-CATCHING arrangement uses non-traditional materials like the stem of zigzag bush and the flower of *pungapung*, a wild plant.

WELCOME arrangement spruces up entrance to ballroom.

TALL table arrangement

Anthurium's versatility in floral arrangement showcased

Text by Tita V. Giron
Photos by Roger Carpio

ANTHURIUM flowers—those heart-shaped glossy flowers—had never received as much attention in any local florists' events as it did last week.

There, at the first Andre Awards for Excellence in Floral Design at the Celebrity Sports Club, were so many varieties of anthurium that charmed everybody. Apart from the familiar brilliant red hues were a range of whites tinged with pink, blue and green. There were also unusual terra and choco tones, as well as mauve and a range of art shades.

Fussed over by florists and their guests, the flower was the main subject at the two-day major florists' event that started with a discussion on the latest developments in floral design and ended with a whole-day competition among floral designers. Although there were cash prizes at stake, the florists seemed keener to get the prestigious trophies and seminar-workshop certificates that would enhance their professional status.

For two days, the grand ballroom of the Quezon City club became a florists' paradise as organizers and sponsors flooded the venue with thousands of fresh flowers, foliage, vases and tools of the trade. The event was hosted jointly by the Netherlands Management Cooperation Program and Agrikultura Pilipina Inc., the largest grower of anthurium in the country.

The local cohost brought the beautiful varieties of anthuriums, as well as leaves and unique botanicals that grew wild in the farm. Puentespina Orchids of Davao brought its popular florist foliage that included wild grasses, cypress and eucalyptus. Liliums, dianthus and calla lilies came from Baguio City's King Louie. There were vases, floral foam and accessories from Apollo Floral Foam and Green 2000.

Ways with anthurium

Piete Vellekoop, the international master floral designer and horticulturist from Holland, shared his expertise on professional floral designing with local florists. He demonstrated techniques in using anthurium in different ways with local foliage and popular florist flowers.

A master showman who owns a company specializing in horticulture trade events, Vellekoop captured the audience's attention with his free-style arrangements and running commentaries. He gave tips and advice as he made a dozen arrangements. "Play around with your materials and your imagination will develop along. The best way is to be comfortable with your materials. And take your time with the preparation and half of the work would have been done."

He commented, while he arranged a massive centerpiece for the table, "I always keep the [florist's] knife in one hand while arranging the flowers and leaves for practical reasons" obviously alluding to the fact that losing tools while working is the known bane of florists. "Your flower arrangement should present a good view on all sides."

His other advice was, "You can do a lot of tricks with your leaves and flowers with the use of wire." The florist wire is thin and pliable. Stems are wired so the leaves and flowers can be bent and twisted in the desired directions.

PASTEL shades dominate color hues of table arrangement.

Non-traditional material

Vellekoop also advised his audience to open their eyes to natural non-traditional materials such as the roots of a vine, the stems of the zigzag bush, *gugo* vine trunk and many more. And, to prove that local florists could turn non-traditional materials into a stunning flower arrangement, he worked around the huge flower of the wild plant called *pungapung*. "This is the first time I've seen this flower," he admitted.

Vellekoop led the teams of jurors who selected the winners in the flower arranging competition. Other judges in the professional category were: landscape-florist designer Francis Gener, and well-known designer Marites Magcase. Judging the amateur competition were Rachy Cuna, Al Caronan and this writer.

Winners in the professional level were: first prize, Vic Simeon of Flower Line, Makati City (P20,000 plus trophy); second prize, Christopher Rompe of Fresh Blossom, Laguna (P10,000); and third prize, Antonio Paulite of Anthony Floral Designs, Baguio City (P5,000).

Winners in the non-professional level were Mabel Academia of Maramaru Wild With Flowers, United Parañaque II (P10,000); Ronald Camaya (P5,000) of Casa Flores de Belen, Makati City; and Joyce Aguilar, 2171 Floral Creation, Ortigas Center.

E-mail the author at mgiron@i-manila.com.ph

Dutch flower arranger shows the many possibilities of anthurium and non-traditional materials

GERRY and Gie Bote of Agricultura Pilipinas with Piete Vellekoop, floral expert from The Netherlands

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Foreverpatsy

From page I1

I wished the earth would open and swallow me up. I felt more miserable when I learned that the young activists, lured to this terrible event, had to pay for their own dinner catered for them by the Terrible Gang. Everybody had to sit through a poorly rehearsed reading from an antique "Good Manners and Right Conduct" book (an awful skit, of course, because it was I who usually directed their crazy protest shows and they had left me out of it!).

Doubly wary

Thenceforth, whenever my birthday month approached, traumatized me became doubly wary. Especially since Odette was always bragging that Doronila would burst out of a birthday cake next time and Sixto Roxas would do a belly dance. So I was alerted when on the eve of my next birthday, Odette asked me to pick her up from Blue Ridge for an activist meeting at some restaurant (sometimes they're not very original). I decided to beat them at their own game. So what I did was to prepare a kettleful of *caldereta* and another of rice and I bought my own birthday cake.

Odette wasn't a great shakes of a planner yet then. She changed her plans in midstream but couldn't notify everybody (no cellphones yet then). I found out later that I was supposed to be delivered to Mario's but the coordination was poor, so Cora was waiting in Gene's Bistro and the others in Shakey's Pizza. Allan was standing at the next corner waiting for Nestor to proceed. Onib was with Odette in her house waiting for me to pick them up. Sweet revenge! I could see their jaws drop as I staggered up the stairs with those two *calderos*. I threw a nice tablecloth over Odette's library table, put the birthday cake on it and sang "Happy birthday to me."

The rest of the Terrible Gang eventually realized the miscues of their disorganization and found their way back to Odette's house for a really fun birthday party. Which I gave.

In July the next year, Onib, just back with a prize from his art exhibit in Europe, brought home a big chunk of *bacalao* and wanted to cook it for us on his birthday. The Terrible Gang and me proceeded to Onib's house in Sampaloc.

The *bacalao* was delicious. Wife Bettina even bought a lot of Chinese food to go with it and somehow even the incongruous pairing seemed just right in that warm, loving and generous company. But then before the party ended, Onib went to one wall covered with a curtain. He drew the curtain aside and, lo and behold, in big letters with gold foil was a poster: Happy Birthday Ka Universe! (That's how Odette and I sarcastically call each other—Miss Universe and Miss World until the activists re-baptized us Ka Universe and Ka World). Foiled again! Now the surprise parties were not on my birthday yet it was still my birthday party? Yikes!

That's what she gets for befriending a gang of practical jokers

I began to really hate birthdays. *Pikon ka kasi*, Odette explained. Everybody else loves surprise parties! (They do?) (Even birthdays that fool Doro?) I got patsied again a year later, however, when three long weeks after my next birthday, Onib phoned me to join Bencab, visiting from Baguio, Odette, Fe, Nestor, Cora and him for a drink at Gene's Bistro. Bencab was the red herring.

As soon as I walked in, Odette whipped up carnival hats, which she put on our heads and gave us *torotots* and harmonicas and whistles to blow. "*Ano na naman ito?*" I wept. "*Berday mo, di ba?*" they chorused. To add to the terror, Odette said she had invited revered activist icons Renato Constantino and Alejandro Lichauco to join us. Thankfully, they didn't appear.

Another birthday of mine came around while Fe was away for months visiting with a friend in Canada. Manny Arriola was immobilized! Odette was obsessed with learning German and playing chess. I felt safe. We were then rehearsing "Luna: An Aswang Romance" and its lead, Chin-Chin Gutierrez, artistic director Manny Chaves and I went to Gabby Barredo's house to see the costumes he was making for Chin-Chin. Just as we were settling down to wine and cheese on Gabby's sculptured table, who comes stealing in the back door but painter Tiny Nuyda—and Manny Arriola! They were carrying a big platter of baked *tahong*. Happy birthday! Manny deadpanned. How were they able to track me down all the way to Las Piñas? Anyway, we finished all the delicious *tahong*.

After that, nothing seemed safe anymore. Being a control freak, I always tried to outdraw the Terrible Gang. "That's because you only know how to give, not to receive," scolded Odette. After an award I got in Ateneo I firmly invited them all for dinner in Cosa Nostra after the ceremony. At the restaurant door right smack on its glass panel, one of them had hung a colored poster saying, "Gilda, Woman of the Years (since 1930)." Imagine all those diners reading that crazy poster made by Manny's ad agency and seeing me being sung to inside.

The next few years, Manny and Onib and Fe and Cora had pretty normal birthday parties. I was even beginning to miss those awful surprises. Then, near my birthdate, Fe called to say we were having a meeting with Horacio "Boy" Morales in PRRM. And Fe and I did have a bonafide meeting with him. No birthday? Where was the catch? It was almost lunchtime. Since PRRM was near my house, I asked Boy and Fe to come over. I had some nice hot food anyway ready just in case (of a birthday). We reached my house. I looked behind the door. No Manny. I looked in the pantry. No Odette. I looked in the bathroom. No Onib, no Cora, no Nestor, no Allan. Where was everybody for heaven's sake? But the surprise is, Fe announced triumphantly, that this year there is no surprise party.

Resigned

Eventually, through the years the enthusiasm for surprise parties seemed to be abating. What a relief not to fear some scandalous breakout. We were, after all, growing older and saner. Or so I thought. Then came Fe's birthday. That was two days ago.

My guard was down. Manny was giving her a birthday party, after all, and Fe had begged me to come. Don't fall into any booby traps, my husband quipped as I kissed him goodbye. I should have been alerted. I fell into one. The Terrible Gang was striking again. I was ushered into Ai Oli restaurant straight to a table with a kinky cake—a pair of mountainous boobs with a candle on one nipple. Under it, in red icing, "Gilda," not "Fe." Sigh. Fe had bought nude girlie lollipops for everybody to suck. This time they had gathered more friends—Bencab, Annie Sarthou, Vergel Santos (who sang), Chit Roces, Manni Chaves, Mariel Francisco and some others plus the usual culprits Odette and Manny and Cora.

But I have become resigned. I am even looking forward to the next surprise. In fact I have a dawning suspicion that my friends truly love me to go to such extents of planning and expense just to discombobulate me. I have accepted that there are many expressions of love and that terror may well be one of them.

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"KAIN KONTRA KANSER!"

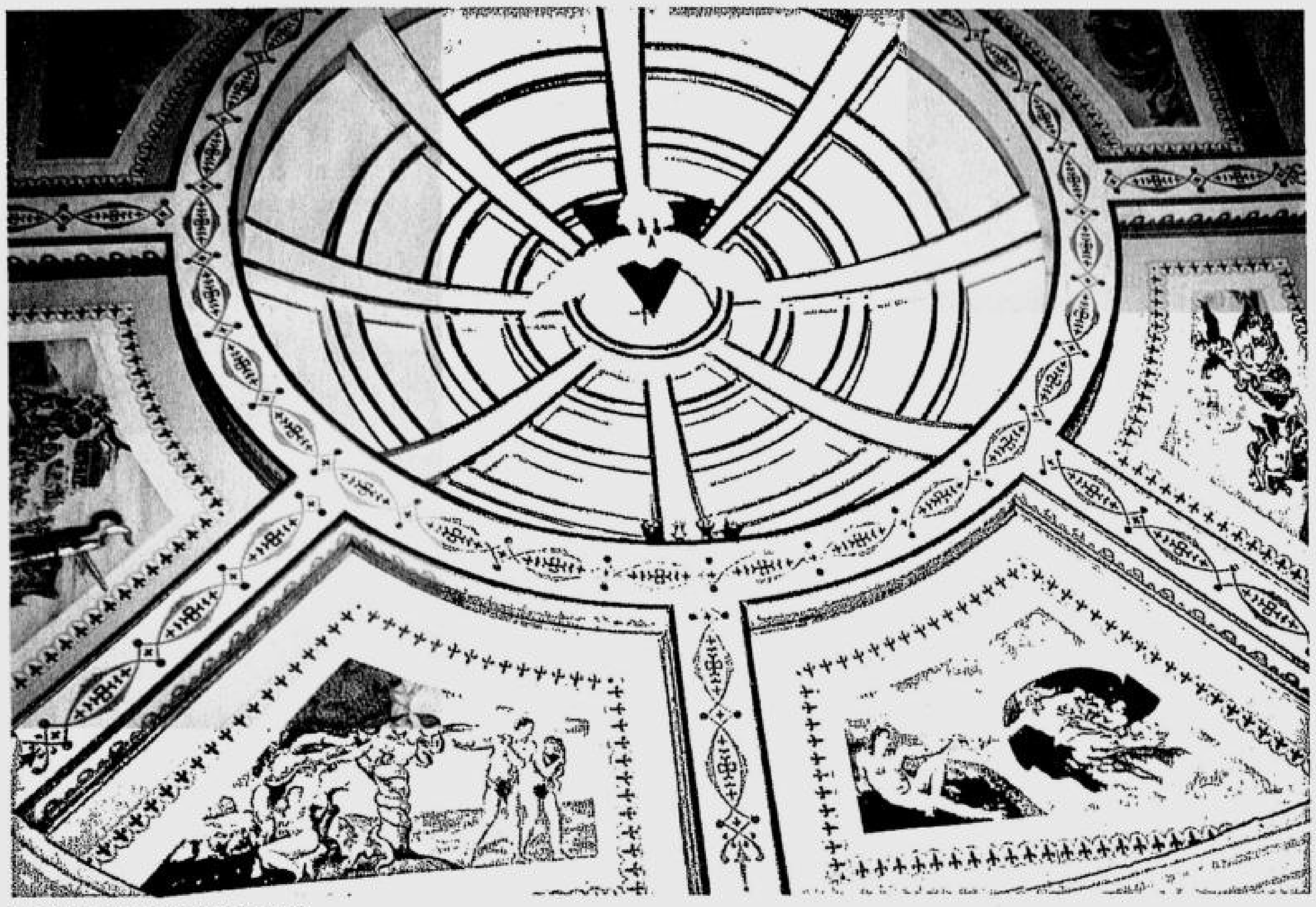
TRAVEL

Editor Rosario A. Garcellano

God in the minimum

What joy to see the divine in a whirlwind tour of 3 churches and a café in a garden, the sort that the long-ago Ernest would not have been caught dead in

Text and photos by Elizabeth Lolarga
Contributor


DOME mural at the Pakil church

DON'T you wonder why there was hardly a mention of the "G" word throughout the trip that took you to three Roman Catholic churches in Laguna, with a lingering luncheon break in a garden café decorated with some images from the great religions of Asia?

It did feel odd to spend a day just gazing at church facades and interiors and trying to catch the scholarly observations of Santiago Albano Pilar on religious art. To you the experience was a break from the Sunday habit of worshipping the divine and requesting heavenly intercession in the quieting of your fretful soul.

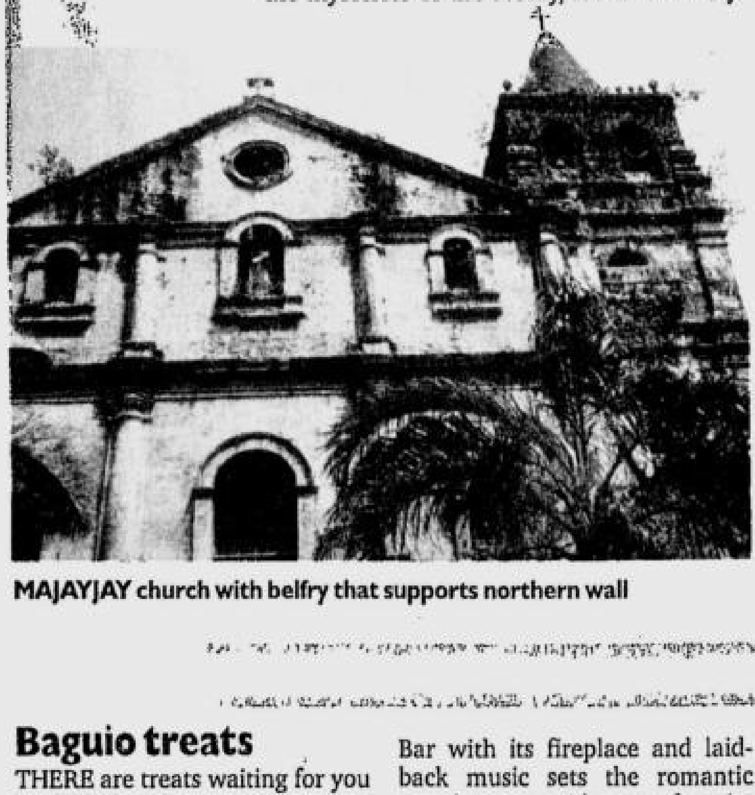
In "Care of the Soul," author Thomas Moore writes: "God is the minimum as well as the maximum. The small things in everyday life are no less sacred than the great issues of human existence. Fine art ... is at times quite lofty while soul in any context is lower case, ordinary, daily, familial and communal, felt, intimate, attached, engaged, involved, affected, ruminating, stirred and poetic."

So lower case that you could find soulful shards in the mild commotion about half an hour after the break of dawn at the new Caltex Star Mart Café on Wilson Street and Ortigas Avenue in San Juan. There, members of the media gathered for their first caffeine fix of the day, a few mouthfuls of pasta, bread or *biscotti*. Somehow the scene unfolding in the store *cum* delicafé reminded you of a line from "Prayer for Peace" composed by Ellen Bass. The poem made the rounds of various e-mail groups about the time the invasion of Iraq broke out: "Waiting in line…for your *latte* and croissant, offer your plea. Make your eating and drinking a supplication."

ERNEST Santiago lightyears away from Coco Banana

The breakfast would see you all through a fast-paced itinerary encompassing tours of the ancient (completed in 1767) Pakil church dedicated to St. Peter of Alcantara and another one dating back to 1717 in the carving town of Paete. The second church was dedicated to St. James the Great, or Santiago Apostol in Spanish. He is the patron saint of Spain, and legend has it that he came down from heaven to help fight the Moors or Saracens. (Aha, the roots of today's ugly war on "terrorists," who are stereotypically Muslim.)

Pilar pointed out the wall materials of Pakil church-yellow limestone alternating with adobe bricks, "a play of texture and color." Inside, he called the group's attention to a huge mural called a catechetical painting. "Books were rare then and not available to everyone," the professor-art critic said. "The friars used the painting to explain the doctrines of the Church, like heaven and hell, the mysteries of the rosary, for those studying to become Christians."


MAJAYJAY church with belfry that supports northern wall

STAINED-GLASS in Paete church of more recent vintage

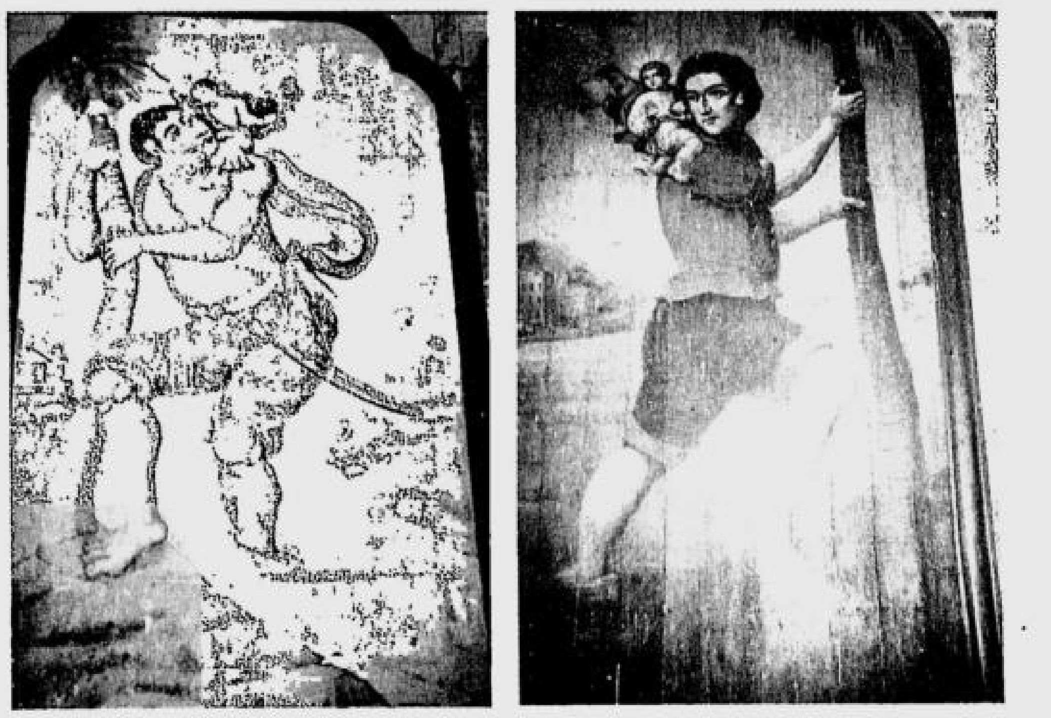
He bewailed the loss of our cultural heritage—the theft of antique images of saints by gangs from outside the community or the sale of these religious items by unenlightened priests to raise funds for their parishes.

Later in an interview with the INQUIRER, Pilar cited the Morong church in Rizal province, which decided to cement the stations of the cross on the walls to prevent vandalism and robbery. In other cases, the priest determines that the needs of his parishioners are more important than prioritizing art and have no compunction about selling valuable religious objects directly to antique dealers, he said.

"If they strictly follow the teachings of Christ not to be attached to objects of wealth, that's understandable," he said. "Some priests seem not to care for art, but they have a responsibility to the nation. If they conserve the artworks, churches and convents properly, this reflects well on them."

He suggested that seminaries train future priests to appreciate art, "so they would know what is aesthetic and realize that there's a standard to be followed."

The *visita iglesia* to Majayjay underlined Pilar's point. Only three reliefs of the 14 stations of the cross remain, and they are behind grills.


IMAGES of St. Christopher in Paete circa 1780s (bare-chested) and 1850s

"A relief is supposed to be a guide to prayer," he said. "It is meant to inspire the faithful. The grills are distracting. Neither are they aesthetically appealing. There must be a way to protect the reliefs and at the same time keep them visible to devotees and artistically pleasant."

"If only the religious hierarchy would allow the National Historical Institute or the Unesco to intervene," he mused, "perhaps these churches will return to their pristine form."

Someone who is qualified to drill a certain sensibility on preserving natural and architectural beauty and carrying out real restoration beyond mere repainting or repairing lives nearby, specifically at the gallery café at 83 Jose Rizal Street in Pagsanjan.

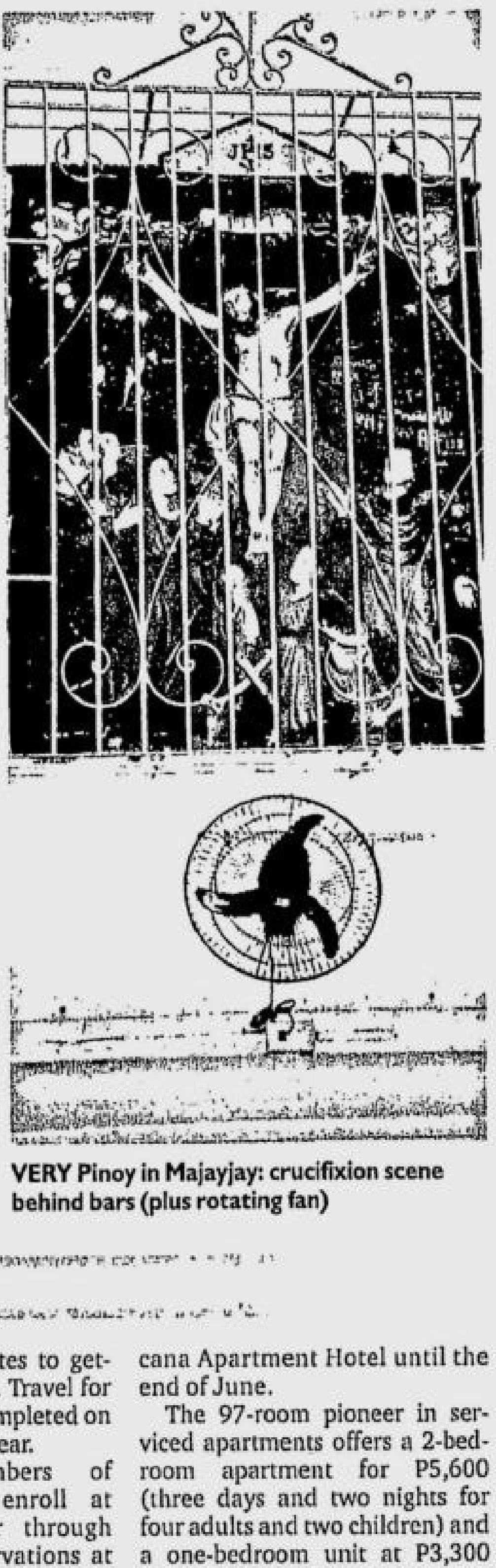
Ernest Santiago left *haute couture* and the night life behind in Malate and resettled in a quiet spot in this Southern Luzon province where he remains a freelance consultant in the areas of design, art, food and floral arrangement.

In the dining pavilion that looks out to his garden, you feel a more palpable holiness, freedom from the constricting stone walls of traditional places of worship. Santiago is a keeper of taken-for-granted artifacts like the green glass buoys that hang suspended beneath a trellis. Today, only buoys made of plastic are found in the sea.

There is grace in the presentation of dishes. Santiago's salad acknowledges some hard-to-find ingredients: *pako* leaves that he grows in his garden, the sweet, red, juicy *aratiles*, local cottage cheese, and radish cut thinly and in rectangular shapes. The platter bearing the smoked *tulingan* was rapidly emptied.

The joys of simple abundance, indeed.

The Laguna tour was made possible by Caltex (Philippines) Inc.


VERY Pinoy in Majayjay: crucifixion scene behind bars (plus rotating fan)

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THERE are treats waiting for you in the beloved mountain city.

Until Sept. 30, Camp John Hay Manor is offering a "Baguio Special Treat" room package that allows guests to book one night and stay the second night free for a minimum stay of two nights. The cost is P4,000 per room, which translates to P2,000 per person for two nights (or P1,000 per person per night, twin-sharing).

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For inquiries, call the Manila sales office at 687-6710 or 687-6524, fax to 687-6607, or e-mail cjhmanor@info.com.ph. You can also call the toll-free reservations numbers 845-0892 and 845-0911, or the Baguio reservations office at (074) 446-0231 up to 50, fax to (074) 445-0420, e-mail cjhmanor@skyinet.net, or visit www.campjohnhay.com.

Mileage Festival

SOUTH Korean national carrier Asiana Airlines (OZ) is offering two choices of special privileges to its Asiana Club members with its Mileage Festival.

Asiana Club, the airline's frequent flyer program, offers double miles earnings on Flight OZ 372 between Manila and Seoul starting this month. Passengers will get to earn mileage faster for their next destination.

Plus, Asiana Club members who have earned only 30,000 miles (instead of the regular 45,000 miles) may now redeem their free round-trip award ticket to Seoul. This translates to getting 15,000 miles free. Travel for this promo must be completed on or before July 19 this year.

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- Strong background in aluminum and glass
- Background in structural steel a plus
- Knowledge in AutoCAD is a must
- Can work without supervision and capable of completing all take-offs
- Proficient in English

> APPLICATION PROCESS
- Qualified applicants are requested to apply in person, from 9-12 AM with the following requirements:
  a. Current and comprehensive resumé
  b. Transcript of college rocord
  c. Recent colored passport photo
- Otherwise, qualified applicants may fax the aforementioned requirements to office management at FAX NO: 910-2449, or send it through e-mail, sotaphil@newgen.net.ph
- Deadline for applications: 30 June 2003

EMPLOYMENT WITH A FUTURE

We believe in offering unparalleled service to our guests anywhere in the world. Hyatt Regency Manila, a member of an international hotel chain is looking for a....

SALES MANAGER

QUALIFICATIONS

The ideal candidate must have at least a minimum of 1 year sales experience in a 4 to 5 star hotel or resort. People oriented and excellent human relations skills. Proficient in oral & written communication skills. Highly motivated, proactive and flexible. Must be computer literate.

PACKAGE

Successful candidate will receive a competitive compensation package with the opportunity of career growth within the hotel chain.

Please submit your comprehensive resume and latest ID photo to:

HYATT

The Director of Human Resources
2702 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City, Metro Manila

Hotel PonteFino
BATANGAS CITY

A deluxe boutique business hotel is inviting top caliber professionals who have the passion for service excellence and a strong desire to achieve the highest levels of quality in the hotel, to join our highly innovative and creative team...

Priority will be given to candidates from Batangas but Manila-based applicants are also welcome to apply.

ROOMS MANAGER
- Preferably with 3 years experience as Duty Manager or Asst. Front Office Manager
- Extensive background in Front Office and Housekeeping Operations
- Knowledgeable in inventory processes, forecasting, scheduling, budgeting & revenue management
- Astute in identifying opportunities.

CHEF MANAGER
- Must have three or more years management experience in a multi-operational type of establishment
- Can think on his feet, highly flexible and possesses a passion for quality and excellence in food and beverage operations.
- Fine dining experience in kitchen and service is a definite edge.

CHEF DE CUISINE
- Possess management and training skills with hands on experience in a la carte & banquet preparation
- Knowledgeable in menu planning, menu execution, recipe costing and food presentation.
- Should have at least 2 years Sous Chef or Head Cook work experience.

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM MGR/OFFICER
- Highly proficient in hardware/software installation and maintenance, preferably with background in system/program management.

PROCUREMENT OFFICER
- With excellent knowledge of food, beverage, and supplies purchase procedures.
- Keen on price composition and analysis; with unquestionable integrity

COST CONTROL OFFICER
- With a degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management or Accounting.
- Has an eye for detail; well-organized. Prior work experience in restaurant operations is required.
- Experience in recipe, menu costing, inventory and purchasing is a sure advantage.

HR AND TRAINING OFFICER
- Graduate of Behavioural Science or Hotel & Restaurant Management course.
- Well-versed in all facets of HR functions, with emphasis on Training conceptualization and implementation.

SALES EXECUTIVE
- At least two years high-level hospitality sales experience.
- With established contacts/clients.
- Enjoys fieldwork, must be highly articulate, resourceful, and must possess good writing skills.

SALES AND F/B COORDINATOR
- Highly personable, articulate, resourceful, creative, and a good event organizer.
- At least two years banquet sales experience is required.

SHIFT SUPERVISOR – ENGINEERING
- A licensed Electrical or Electronics & Communication Engineer.
- Knowledgeable in controls (PLC), with hands-on experience in PABX system, computer set-up, CCTV, fire alarm system, CATV and switchgears.

All positions require proficiency in computer and IT applications. Experience from a hotel environment is an advantage.

Interested applicants may apply at:
24/F IBM Plaza Bldg., Eastwood City, E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue,
Libis, Quezon City

Hotel PonteFino
BATANGAS CITY

We are currently in need of team members for the following positions:

CASHIERS
SERVERS
BARTENDERS
STOREKEEPER
HEAD STEWARDS
STEWARDS
DRIVER/VALET
ROOM ATTENDANTS
BELL HOP
COOKS
KITCHEN HELPERS
LAUNDRY ATTENDANTS/LINEN

First of all, you must have the heart to keep guests happy. To meet this challenge, commitment to give the best service as well as the ability to communicate and interact with them well are qualities we seek from successful candidates. We also require a college education and a minimum of 2 years relevant experience from a hospitality or service industry.

We also seek highly-motivated, efficient, courteous, service-oriented, and computer-literate professionals:

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/SECRETARY TO THE GENERAL MANAGER
- At least 3 years experience in administrative work is required, preferably serving a senior executive.
- Adepth in preparing business correspondence and office memos.
- Equipped with good judgment and excellent organizing, coordination, planning and people skills

CHEF DE PARTIE
- Must possess strong culinary skills and has had exposure to different types of cuisine.
- Has handled and supervised staff.
- Must understand the fundamentals of food and labor cost controls.

BOOKKEEPER
- With min. of 3 years experience in bookkeeping. Preferably a licensed accountant with auditing background.

HOUSEKEEPING SUPERVISOR
- Involved in tasks related to guest room preparation and cleanliness for guest arrival
- Must have at least 2 years experience in housekeeping or facilities supervision in a hotel setting
- Background in inventory, planning and scheduling, forecasting and budget preparation is an advantage

RESTAURANT SERVICE SUPERVISOR
- A minimum of 2 years relevant experience in dining and restaurant operation is required
- Must be able to run a shift, training and mentoring skills is an advantage

AUDITORS
- Highly systematic, organized, analytical, and keen to details
- Has accounting background and knowledgeable in sales audit-bar, restaurant, hotel environment.

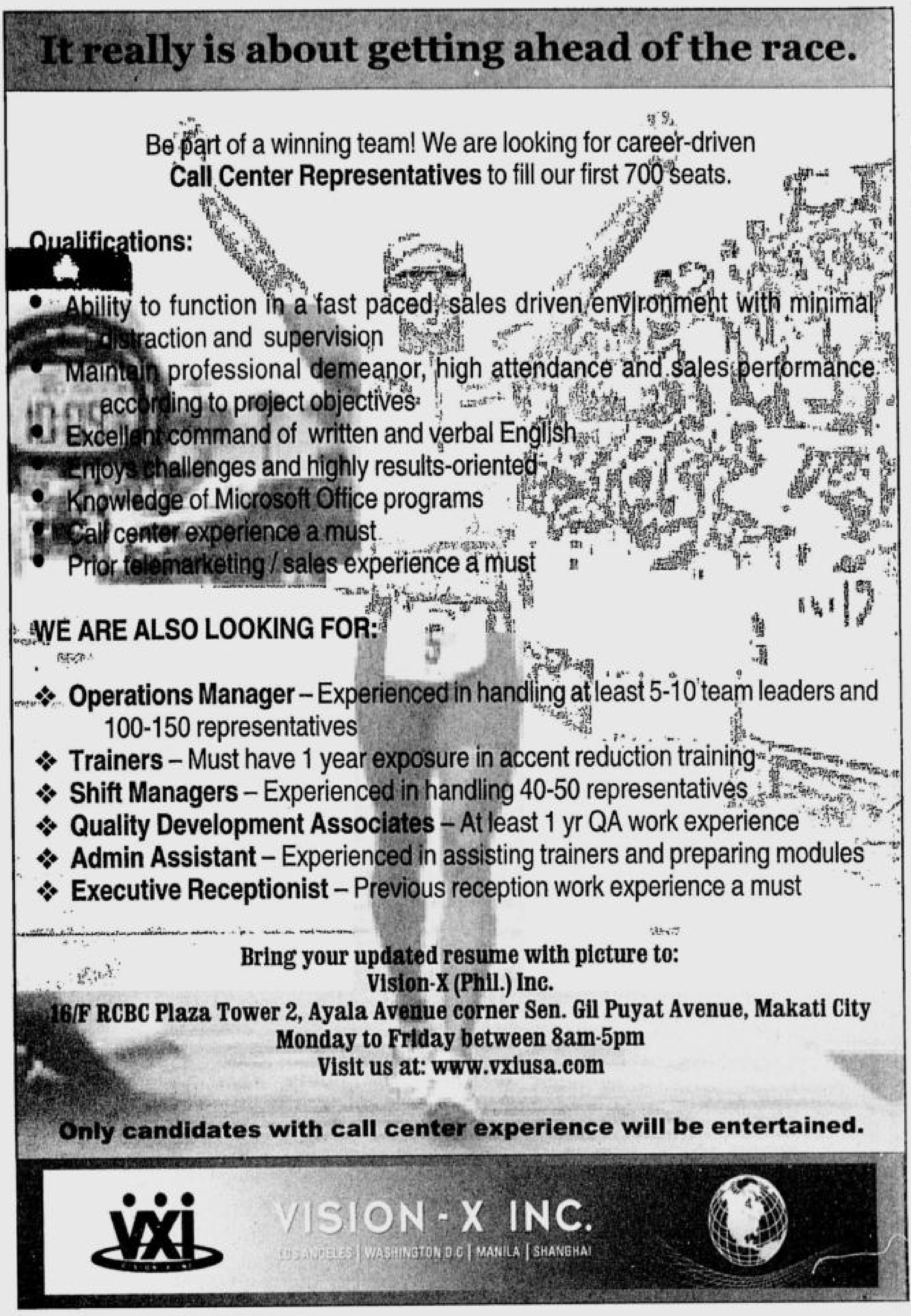
FRONT OFFICE AGENTS
- Highly focused, has the ability to project a positive attitude over the telephone.
- Goes an extra mile to assist the customers with courtesy and efficiency.

TREASURY ASSISTANT
- Graduate of Accounting course, with two years minimum experience in check preparation and bank transacting preparation.

Successful candidates must be ready for immediate deployment and willing to undergo extensive training and flexible schedules. We will give priority to local residents of Batangas.

An on-site screening will be conducted on June 24, 2003, Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 nn, at Hotel Pontefino, Gulod Labac, Batangas City. Interested applicants may bring their application letter, curriculum vitaé, and certificates of employment.

Metro Manila residents may send their resumé at 24th Flr. Eastwood City, Libis, Quezon City.
(Positions available up to July 5, 2003)



It really is about getting ahead of the race.

Be part of a winning team! We are looking for career-driven **Call Center Representatives** to fill our first 700 seats.

Qualifications:
- Ability to function in a fast paced, sales driven environment with minimal distraction and supervision
- Maintain professional demeanor, high attendance and sales performance according to project objectives
- Excellent command of written and verbal English
- Enjoys challenges and highly results-oriented
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office programs
- Call center experience a must
- Prior telemarketing / sales experience a must

WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR:
- ❖ **Operations Manager** – Experienced in handling at least 5-10 team leaders and 100-150 representatives
- ❖ **Trainers** – Must have 1 year exposure in accent reduction training
- ❖ **Shift Managers** – Experienced in handling 40-50 representatives
- ❖ **Quality Development Associates** – At least 1 yr QA work experience
- ❖ **Admin Assistant** – Experienced in assisting trainers and preparing modules
- ❖ **Executive Receptionist** – Previous reception work experience a must

Bring your updated resume with picture to:
Vision-X (Phil.) Inc.
16/F RCBC Plaza Tower 2, Ayala Avenue corner Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
Monday to Friday between 8am-5pm
Visit us at: www.vxiusa.com

Only candidates with call center experience will be entertained.

VXI VISION - X INC.
LOS ANGELES | WASHINGTON D.C | MANILA | SHANGHAI

Stores Specialists, Inc.

Is in immediate need of top caliber individuals:

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE GENERAL MANAGER
- Female; between 25-30 years old
- Graduate of any Business related course
- At least two (2) years experience in office management
- Must be knowledgeable in finance work
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality and can deal well with all levels in the organization
- Must have impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Must be computer literate

TRAINING OFFICER
- Single; between 25-30 years old
- Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or Human Resource Management
- With at least two (2) years experience in Training & Development Programs and Training Analysis
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Must be computer literate

BOUTIQUE MANAGERS
- Female; at least 5'2 in height
- Between 25-35 years old
- Graduate of a four (4) year course
- Preferably with work experience in a fashion retail establishment
- Must possess a pleasing and aggressive personality
- Must be very good in customer relations
- Must be willing to work on weekends and holidays
- Must be proficient in both oral and written communications
- Must be computer literate

MERCHANDISING ASSISTANTS
- Female; between 23-29 years old
- Graduate of a four-year Business related course or a Fashion Merchandising Degree
- With at least six (6) months work experience preferably in retailing
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must be analytical and results-oriented
- Must have a good fashion sense
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Must be computer literate mostly in Microsoft Excel

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO E-MAIL OR SEND IMMEDIATELY THEIR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ, TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS AND A RECENT 2X2 PHOTO TO:

STORES SPECIALISTS, INC.
Human Resources Management Division
(c/o Executive Administration)
Ground Floor, Midland Buendia Bldg.
403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
E-mail address: cspagkalinawan@rgoc.com.ph

(We will reply to qualified applicants only)

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOBMarket ONLINE
VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

Chateau 1771 Group of Restaurants

PORTICO 1771
Malate

CHATEAU 1771
Ortigas

SENTRO 1771
Makati

Sidebar Cafe
Ortigas & Malate

Looking for something new and challenging?
A continuously changing environment which will keep your energy level on the go is looking for highly motivated individuals for the following positions:

Receptionists	Bartenders	F&B Staff
Cashiers	Servers	Cooks
Kitchen Helpers	Housekeeping Staff	Stewards

To qualify, successful candidates must have an HRA/HRM degree or any related four-year course and at least 1 year relevant experience (fresh graduates are welcome to apply too).

We are also looking for **Dining Specialists** who have the ability to provide guests the finest dining experience while leading empowered guest-service focused restaurant teams.

We will train you in all aspects of our operations. With three outlets strategically located at different parts of the city, we promise that each moment with us will surely be a fulfilling and enriching one.

Up to this challenge?
Send your resumé, 2x2 photo, Transcript of Records, and Certificates of Employment or clearance from previous employer to:

HR Management Group
24th Floor, IBM Plaza, Eastwood City, Libis, Quezon City

Accelerate your career with BMW.

BMW Group Philippines is looking for an individual with drive and ambition who will take on a position of leadership and responsibility with our BMW Authorised Dealer in Pampanga.

General Sales Manager

- will be responsible for the overall management of sales and marketing operations of the dealership.
- will report directly to the Dealer Principal
- will be in-charge of the qualitative and quantitative achievements of the Sales and Marketing Department

To be qualified, the individual must:

- have extensive experience in sales and marketing management
- have effective people management skills
- be highly motivated and have strong leadership skills
- be target-oriented
- be able to work well with all levels of the organization

BMW Recruitment

All applications must be sent to the Human Resources Department, BMW Group Philippines, 15th floor Philamlife Tower, 8767 Paseo De Roxas, Makati City, (if e-mail, please send to hr@bmw.com.ph) on or before July 4,2003.

A Leading manufacturer of modular kitchen cabinets is urgently in need of the following personnel:

SALESPERSON

Male/Female, not more than 30 years old with pleasing personality, must have at least 2 years experience in manufacturing and sales, must be aggressive and hardworking.

CADD OPERATOR

Male, must have a knowledge in Auto Cadd 2000/Auto Cadd R14, designing cabinets & closets, must have good presentation skills and at least 2 years experience in the field of furniture industry.

Interested parties must send their resumé with recent 2x2 picture at 602-B Summit 1 Office Tower, 530 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City or fax it at 718-0147.

GRAND JOB FAIR OF
BUENCONSEJO-ILLUSTRADO & ASSOCIATES

URGENTLY NEEDS....

JUNIOR MANAGER
MANAGEMENT TRAINEE
CORPORATE ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

45-GRADUATES OF: PT, OT, RT, BSN & any MED. courses
* License of Non-License & good pleasing personality
30-GRADUATES OF: IE, ECE, EE, ME, CE & Archi.
* Self-motivated & willing to undergo training
20-GRADUATES OF: BSC, Tourism, Educ., Philo & Psyc
* Managerial skill is an advantage
12- GRADUATES OF: CoE, ComSci & other IT related courses.
* Creative, good analysis & hardworking

** Age 20 to 35 years old, with or w/o experience. Willing to be assign in diff. positions available in the company.
** Hiring starts on June 23-28, 2003 (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM). **Accepted applicants from June 23-28, 2003 will start immediately.**

FRESH GRADUATES ARE WELCOME TO APPLY

Interested applicants may apply personally with comprehensive resumé, original credential and 2x2 picture at:

#235-C Mercan Bldg., EDSA Ext'n., Pasay City (near Saver's Square & Allied Bank, walking distance from MRT Taft & LRT Edsa station)

Look for MS. ESTRADA

Clip this AD to your RESUME

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
JOBMarket ONLINE
www.jobmarketonline.com

JOB MARKET
PDI
CROSSWORD CHALLENGE
GET A CHANCE TO WIN AN
eBookMan

The new Job Market, the only classifieds section that helps increase your chances of getting hired, now gives you a chance to win a trendy eBookMan – a handheld multi-media device that stores library of ebooks, music, audio-books, daily news & other essential information which are retrievable at your fingertips...anytime. It also functions as a PDA and voice recorder. From April 20 to July 06, a crossword puzzle will appear every Sunday in the Job Market. Fill up the puzzle completely and correctly using the clues given. Every week, five (5) winners will be drawn in which each will receive gift certificates to reputable computer schools for courses that will boost your credentials when you apply for a job. All the weekly winners will then via for an eBookMan in the two major grand draws on May 12 and July 6. So are you up to the challenge? Read the new Job Market Crossword Challenge!

New Horizons
Computer Learning Centers

Get more chances to win online! Simply visit www.jobmarketonline.com where the puzzle is posted from Monday to Thursday. Just print, fill up and send as many entries as you wish!

PROMO MECHANICS:

1 The promotion is open to all Inquirer Job Market readers nationwide as well as visitors of jobmarketonline. com.

2. For 12 consecutive Sundays (from April 20 to June 29) every Job Market issue will have a crossword puzzle cum entry form published on the section's 2nd page asking questions about the job placement ads and the editorial content of the Job Market. Each week will feature a different set of questions and puzzle.

3. Readers are tasked to complete the puzzle using the job placement ads and articles that came out in the same issue as clues, and write their name, address, telephone number and signature on the space provided for in the entry form.

4. The same puzzle, questions and entry form can also be found in the jobmarketonline website from Monday to Thursday of the following week.

5. To join through jobmarketonline, visitors must print out the puzzle/entry form found on the website and fill it up manually. Only printed versions of the said puzzle/entry form are valid. No photocopies allowed.

6. Puzzle/entry forms (newspaper cut-outs for print entries and computer print outs for website entries) must then be placed inside a white legal size envelope and mailed to "The Job Market Crossword Challenge" c/o Job Market, Philippine Daily Inquirer Chino Roces Avenue cor. Yague and Mascardo sts. 1230 Makati City. Each complete puzzle/entry form serves as a single official entry during which the winners (5) will be drawn every week to receive the following:

Gift certificates from any of the following computer schools: NIIT, STI, Informatics, Genetics and New Horizon.

7. Only entries with complete & correct puzzles are considered valid. All entries for the week (provincial and GMA) must be received by 5pm Friday of the following week to qualify for the weekly draw to be held every Monday after the submission deadline.

8 There would be a total of twelve (12) weekly draws divided into two (2) phases, each comprise of four (4), the other seven (7) and one (1) grand draw.

Raffle draw details are as follows:

DATE INCLUSIVE	SUBMISSION DEADLINE	GRAND DRAW	VENUE
April 20 to May 4	May 9	May 12	Glorietta
May 18 to June 29	July 4	July 6	PDI Office

9. An individual may send more than one (1) entry (for both print and online entries) but may only win once in every weekly draw. Non-winning entries for each particular draw will be disqualified in the succeeding dras. All weekly draws will be held at the Philippine Daily Inquirer office at 3:00 pm in the presence of a DTI rep.

10. Only the thirty (30) weekly draw winners will qualify for each of the 2 grand draws wherein one winner will receive the prize.

11. Raffle prizes are non-transferable and not convertible to cash.

12. Winners will be notified via registered mail and telephone. Name of the weekly winners will be published in the Job Market and posted in jobmarket online every week.

13. Winners can claim their prizes at the PDI office upon presentation of the notification letter and valid ID (driver's license, TIN,SSS or Passport.)

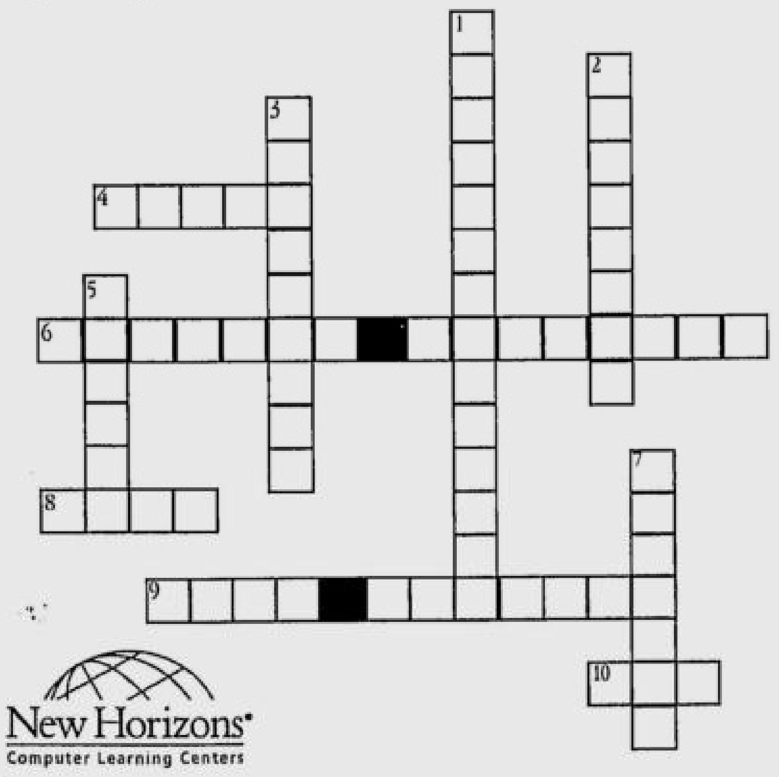
14. Raffle prizes not claimed within 60 days from receipt of notification will be forfeited in favor of PDI with prior approval from DTI.

15. Employees & staff of PDI, their ad agency & their relatives up to the 2nd degree of consanguinity & affinity are disqualified from joining the promo.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER   inq7.net   jobmarketonline.com   eBookMan®

JOB Market
Where you find the best.

Check out this week's challenging crossword!



New Horizons
Computer Learning Centers

Using the clues below, fill up the puzzle correctly and completely.
Then send it to **PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER** Chino Roces Ave. Makati City or any **Inquirer Branch**, along with your personal details for a chance to gift certificates from NEW HORIZONS COMPUTER LEARNING CENTER.

ACROSS

4 Jardine Caldbeck is looking for an Account Executive-___ (see p.10)
6 Those who have to earn money to foot their schooling bills (see p.14)
8 Job Market. Where you find the ___
9 ePLDT is in need of employees for its ___ (see p.01)
10 Stuck in my own ___ (see p.12)

DOWN

1 Store Specialists, Inc., Human Resources Mgmt. Division c/o Executive ___ (see p.03)
2 New Horizons ___ Learning Centers
3 Commonsense ___ Tips (see p.10)
5 ___ wakes me up! (see p.14)
7 TERMINIX. No Bugs. No ___ (see p.02)

NAME ____________________

ADDRESS ____________________

____

TEL. NO. ____________________

SIGNATURE ____________________

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER   inq7.net   jobmarketonline.com

JOB Market
Where you find the best.

NOW HIRING

invites service-oriented and dynamic professionals to be part of our winning team

LUCENA

needs

CASHIERS

CHECKERS

- at least college level
- not more than 25 years old

SALES CLERKS

- female, 18-25 years old
- at least High School graduate
- 5 feet 2 inches in height
- with pleasant disposition

Interested parties may apply personally from Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at SM Lucena Department Store (Satellite Office), Villa Consuelo, Enverga Boulevard, Red-V, Lucena City. Please bring the following requirements: Bio-data, 2 pcs. 2x2 colored photo with white background, SSS number, TIN (If available). Please come in blouse and skirt.

LBP SERVICE CORPORATION
Committed to the people we serve

A prestigious manpower solutions provider, is in need of the following personnel:

INTERNAL AUDIT MANAGER
- Master's Degree in Business, CPA;
- At least seven (7) years in Auditing, Accounting or any related job;
- Highly analytical and creative
- Proficiency in oral and written business communication
- Technically trained as an Auditor

ACCOUNTING MANAGER
- Bachelor's Degree in Accountancy, CPA;
- At least 3 years in General and Cost Accounting;
- Highly Analytical;
- Expertise in Accounting matters;
- Good leadership;
- Computer literacy.

MARKETING MANAGER
- Master's Degree ideally but not limited to Business Administration, Commerce, Communication, or Marketing;
- At least 5 years in Managerial position;
- Proven PR capabilities;
- Strong project management skills.

TREASURY MANAGER
- Master's Degree in Business or related field;
- At least 5 years including 3 years supervisory experience in Treasury or Finance operations
- Knowledgeable in banking procedures;
- Proficiency in oral and written communication;
- Strong interpersonal skills;
- Strong management skills.

Interested applicants are invited to visit our office at the 9th floor, Century Tower, 100 Tordesillas cor. H.V. dela Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati City. Inquiries may be directed to Valerie / Chinky / Vivian at **(02) 753-1625**. You may also email us at lbpsc@mozcom.com

Please come in business attire.

FIL-PACIFIC
APPAREL CORPORATION

manufacturer of established brand names for local and export market is currently accepting applicants for the following positions:

MAINTENANCE MANAGER

Graduate of Engineering (ME/Electrical/Chemical); fully licensed and certified; can prepare budgets and estimates for renovation, repairs and rehabilitation; overseas generation of utilities to the plant like water, electricity and air-conditioning to offices and building maintenance; experience in a garments manufacturing company is a plus

CHIEF SEWING MECHANIC

Graduate of Mechanical Engineering; with 5 years work experience; can implement machine maintenance system and utilize equipment and machinery to achieve maximum productivity; capable of troubleshooting special sewing machines; with skills in programmable logic controller and electropneumatic

INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERS

Male or female; 24 to 35 years old; with at least 3 years experience in production planning, time and motion study and analysis;would be responsible for generating and issuing production plans for daily work schedules; and monitoring performance of production in accordance to given work schedules; experience in a garments manufacturing company is an advantage

SEWING MECHANIC

Must have at least 3 years of experience in repair of the following machines: FOA, BAS, buttonhole, bartack, 5 threads and fusing; not more than 40 years old

Interested applicants may send or e-mail their detailed resume and application letter to:
The Human Resources Department — **Fil-Pacific Apparel Corp.**
c/o Authentic American Apparel
Km. 21 West Service Road, Sucat, Muntinlupa City
e-mail : hrdiv@fil-pacific.com
Telephone Numbers: 809-6060/546-0980/7723261/7723504

Join the team!

FilBarcelo, a company with a global presence in the hospitality industry now seeks the following qualified professionals in line with the expansion of its managed properties in the Philippines:

FINANCE

- FINANCIAL CONTROLLER (*Ref. No. 01*)
  -Minimum 2-3 years relevant experience in the hotels and/or properties management industry holding a similar or related position;
  -Knowledge of Fidelio/IFCA;
  -CPA preferred but not required; MBA degree a plus.
- NIGHT AUDITOR (*Ref. No. 02*)
  -Minimum two (2) years experience in the hotels/resorts industry performing audit/financial accounting functions.
  -Knowledge of Fidelio/IFCA.
- PURCHASING MANAGER (*Ref. No.03*) / COST CONTROLLER (*Ref. No. 04*)
  -Minimum two (2) years relevant experience in a similar or related position in the hotel and restaurant industry.

ROOMS

- OPERATIONS MANAGER (*Ref. No. 05*)
  -Minimum 2-3 years experience in a similar position in the hotels/resorts industry.
- HOUSEKEEPING EXECUTIVE (*Ref. No.06*) / ASSISTANT HOUSEKEEPER (*Ref. No. 07*)
  -Minimum three (3) years relevant experience in the hotels and properties management industry.
- CHIEF ENGINEER (*Ref. No. 08*)
  -Minimum 2-3 years experience in a similar position in a hotel/resort setting.

SALES AND MARKETING

- SALES DIRECTOR/ASST. SALES DIRECTOR (*Ref. No. 09*)
  -Minimum five (5) years relevant sales and marketing experience in the hotels and properties management industry.
- SALES MANAGER (*Ref. No. 10*)
  -Minimum three (3) years relevant experience in sales and marketing, preferably in the hotel and restaurant industry.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE

- FOOD AND BEVERAGE MANAGER (*Ref. No. 11*)
  -Minimum five (5) years relevant experience in food and beverage in a similar capacity.
- F&B SUPERVISOR (*Ref. No. 12*) / RESTAURANT MANAGERS (*Ref. No.13*)
  -Minimum three (3) years relevant experience in a hotel and restaurant setting.
- EXECUTIVE CHEFS, CHEFS (*Ref. No. 14*)
  -Minimum 3-5 years relevant experience in a hotel and restaurant setting.

In addition to the above minimum requirements, all applicants must be willing to be assigned outside Metro Manila to the properties managed by the Company. Qualified applicants may send their application letters and comprehensive resumes with a 2x2 ID picture to the following address:

The Regional Director for Human Resources
FilBarcelo Hotels and Properties Management Corporation
4th Floor, Adamson Centre
121 Leviste Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City

HIGH END BUSINESS TO BUSINESS SALES PROFESSIONALS NEEDED!!!

EXCELLENT BASE PAY AND THE BEST INCENTIVE PROGRAM.
PLEASE APPLY ONLY IF YOU HAVE SERIOUS SALES EXPERIENCE AND ARE READY TO MAKE SOME SERIOUS MONEY!

We're currently on the look out for talented individuals to be a part of our team.

15 SALES TEAM CAPTAINS

Strong leadership skills, should know how to strongly motivate your people to excel and reach revenue targets. You will be the first line supervisor of a team of Outbound Sales Agents. Candidates must possess a minimum of 1 year supervisory experience from any industry; call center experience is a big plus. Willing to work shifts is a must.

100 OUTBOUND SALES AGENTS

Call US based companies, generate leads and help grow the fast moving technology business, therefore strong verbal & written communication is a must. Qualify calls and make your customers interested in closing a sale. Ability to work in a team & in graveyard shifts is necessary.

At Ambergris Solutions, people make the difference. Attractive compensation, competitive benefits, daily treats, night shift bonuses and exceptional career growth will be given to qualified applicants. Our employee-partners are committed in transforming the world of customer care.

Come join the revolution!

ambergris solutions
31/F Discovery Centre, 25 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Monday to Friday, between 10am-5pm
Or email to: recruitment@ambergrissolutions.com
www.ambergrissolutions.com

ambergris solutions

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seven suites

Sophistication

City Saver Hotel
FUNCTION

CORPORATE SALES & MARKETING PROFESSIONALS

☐ Degree in hotel and restaurant management, business, or the liberal arts
☐ 21-25 years old who exudes class and confidence
☐ Excellent communication/presentation skills and adept with computers
☐ Exposure in the service, consumer, and hospitability industries

Successful candidates will be part of the dynamic, creative, and aggressive team of hotel professionals who will be in charge of marketing a boutique hotel in picturesque Antipolo and a businessman's hotel in bustling Quezon City.

Mail or hand deliver your curriculum vitaé with a cover letter to:

CORPORATE SALES AND MARKETING DIVISION
26 Kamias Road, West Kamias, Quezon City
Telephone No. 926-8985
E-mail: applyhotelprofessionals@hotmail.com

SECURITY BANK

We offer fast-track growth and development to results-oriented and customer-driven professionals who will join our dynamic team.

ACCOUNT OFFICERS (Metro Manila, Cebu and Zamboanga Assignment)

Responsible for marketing the services of the bank and develops / maintains desired profitability levels of approved credit facilities. Ideal candidate must have exposure in accounts management and must have a balance marketing and credit skills. Has excellent communication and effective leadership skills. Must fit well in a fast-paced work environment.

BUSINESS MANAGERS (Metro Manila, Cagayan de Oro, Cebu and La Paz)

Responsible for generating the targeted deposit level and conducting the operations of the branch. Ideal candidate must have at least 5 years experience in branch operations and marketing in a commercial bank; self-driven, sales oriented, has excellent customer relations and able to fit well in a fast-paced work environment. Preferably Chinese speaking.

SALES OFFICERS (Metro Manila and Provincial Assignments)

Responsible for supporting the Business Manager in generating and expanding relationships, through new accounts acquisitions, formulation, developments, execution and monitoring of marketing and sales strategies for the Branch. Ideal candidate must have at least 2 years experience in sales function preferably in the banking industry; self-motivated, has excellent communication and customer service skills. Knowledge in branch operations and strong business connections would be an advantage.

Interested applicants may send their comprehensive resume, photocopy of transcript of records and recent 2" X 2" photo to:

SECURITY BANK CORPORATION
Human Resources Development Division
9/F, Security Bank Centre, 6776 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
hrrecruitment@securitybank.com.ph

Save the Children Federation, Inc.

Save the Children Federation, Inc. is a US-based non-profit organization working in over forty countries world wide, implementing community development projects that help children in need. Save the Children is searching for qualified candidates for:

National HRD Officer

JOB DESCRIPTION:

General: This is an HRD specialist position, wherein the person in charge shall provide the overall responsibility in conducting Orientation Training and staff development training, Managing HRD data files and the Human Resource Information System (HRIS).

Specific:

1. Take the lead in conducting the annual orientation program for new staff in coordination with heads of various units
2. Coordinate annual staff assessments
3. Design annual staff development program for PhPO staff
4. Maintain a system of HRD manual files
5. Maintain an automated/computerized HRD information system
6. Assist in the hiring and evaluation of new staff
7. Assist in the conduct of annual Quality Management review
8. Sits as a member of grievance committee in personnel conflict resolution
9. Assists staff in designing and reviewing job description
10. Represents Save the Children in HRD treaining, and meetings
11. Assists in the conduct of Team building sessions

Requirement:

1. Excellent writing skills
2. Strong interpersonal and verbal communication skills
3. Computer literate with strong skills in software application and management
4. Team player

Qualified applicants may send their resumés on or before June 30, 2003 to: By mail - CODE: HRD OFFICER, Save the Children Federation, Inc., No. 1 Encarnacion Street corner Lapu-Lapu Avenue, Magallanes Village, Makati City, Metro Manila. By fax: (632) 853-02-15. By e-mail: mdragsag@savechildren.org (please indicate code "HRD Officer" in subject line)

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Do you have...?

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Are you...?

- Highly customer-focused & a team player
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We are an affiliate company of Pacific Internet Philippines & a Call Center servicing International & US-based clients.

Given the urgency of these requirements, we invite interested applicants to apply in person with a copy of their comprehensive resumes at:

31/F Wynsum Corporate Plaza
Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center,
Pasig City
from Tuesdays – Saturdays
7am – 3pm

Previous applicants need not apply.
For inquiries please call 910-5174 or 910-5184.

Rustan Marketing Corporation

Is in urgent need of top caliber individuals

GROUP PRODUCT MANAGER

- Female; between 30-40 years old
- Degree in Business, preferably Marketing or Economics, an MBA degree or units is an advantage
- Minimum of three (3) years solid experience in brand management and development of consumer products in a managerial capacity
- Must possess strong leadership qualities
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Must be computer literate

SALES MANAGER FOR FRAGRANCES AND COSMETICS

- Female; between 26-35 years old
- Graduate of a four-year business related course
- Minimum of three (3) years managerial experience in a direct/retail selling environment
- Preferably with experience in distributing consumer products
- Creative and with excellent communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing, aggressive and dynamic personality
- Must be computer literate

PERSONNEL OFFICER

- Female; between 25-35 years old
- Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or Human Resource Management
- With at least two (2) years experience in all facets of Human Resource Management
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must have strong leadership qualities, organizational and interpersonal skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality and can deal well with all levels in the organization
- Must be people-oriented, analytical, and highly motivated
- Must be computer literate

AUDIT ASSISTANT

- Female; between 26-30 years old
- Must be a Certified Public Accountant
- With at least two (2) years experience in Auditing work
- Must possess an analytical mind
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Must be computer literate

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO E-MAIL OR SEND IMMEDIATELY THEIR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ, TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS AND A RECENT 2X2 PHOTO TO:

RUSTAN MARKETING CORPORATION
Human Resources Management Division
(c/o Executive Administration)
Ground Floor Midland Buendia Bldg.
403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
E-mail address: cspagkalinawan@rgoc.com.ph

(We will reply to qualified applicants only)

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A modern, systematic EyeCare Facility is in search of:

- **Nurse** – graduate of B.S. Nursing; with or without hospital experience; operating room exposure and computer literacy preferred; willing to train and gain ophthalmic nursing skills
- **Optometrist** – passed the Optometry Board; willing to practice in a clinical setting, deal with patients and learn to use diagnostic and surgical equipment
- **Receptionist** – college graduate; conversant in English and Tagalog; ability to speak in Chinese is a plus; should have the confidence to take charge of marketing and patient relations
- **Technician** – college graduate of a computer-related course; knowledgeable on network and database administration; willing to learn to use medical equipment

Please submit Biodata to Donna at Galileo SurgiCenter, G/F Belson House, 271 EDSA corner Connecticut Street, Mandaluyong City 1550. Tel. Nos. 7217135 / 7216412. Deadline June 26, 2003.

The **Senate Economic Planning Office** is in search of a Director General, Senior Economists and Researchers. Prospective candidates for the positions should possess the following qualifications:

Position: Director General

- A masteral degree in Economics or Public Administration with PHD units;
- Five years experience in managing a research organization engaged in policy research
- Good working skills and a network of contacts in the private and government sector
- Have working experience related to legislature
- Good grasp of current economic and social policies of the government.

Position: Senior Economic Specialists

- Masters degree in Economics, Public Administration or Business Administration
- At least four years experience in policy research and with excellent analytical skills;
- Must be familiar with legislative process;
- Must be familiar with economic and social policy issues;
- Must have good writing and communication skills; and
- Professional Civil Service Eligibility.

Position: Economic Specialist

- A degree in Economics, Finance or other related fields, with masteral units;
- At least three years experience in policy research;
- Good writing and analytical skills; and
- Professional Civil Service Eligibility

Position: Economic Researchers

- A degree in Economics;
- At least two years experience in research;
- Good writing skills; and
- Professional Civil Service Eligibility

Interested candidates can send their resumé with recent photo to the Office of Sen. Sergio Osmeña III (c/o Tet Cruz), Senate of the Philippines, Pasay City.

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SECURITY ANALYSTS

Security Related Qualifications

- Bachelor's Degree
- Security and/or military background
- Extensive knowledge in Security Planning, Risk management, Emergency procedures, Perimeter protection
- At least 3 yrs professional experience in the field of security
- Comprehensive training in security and protection
- Has background in research and data gathering

Skills Required

- Analytical, can evaluate and consolidate data
- Strong in verbal & written communications
- Proficient in MS Office
- Knowledge in graphic arts and/or lay outing an advantage

Other Requirements

- Team player, can perform multi tasks
- Willing to work long hours, willing to travel
- Can work in a multicultural environment
- Female / Male, at least 26 years old

Fax 8120315
email: info@businessprofiles.com.ph
website: www.businessprofiles.com.ph

RESERVATION OFFICER

- Female, 20-35 years old / HRM or Tourism graduate
- Pref. w/ Airline Ticketing experience
- Knowledgeable in computer application
- Resident of Manila/Pasay/Parañaque

Apply in person at El Pino Travel/
U5, 2F, ECG Bldg., Multinational Ave.,
Multinational Village, Parañaque City
Tel. No. 541-4682/83 Fax 776-6415
Look for Margot Rama

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PACIFIC EAST ASIA CARGO AIRLINES

NEEDS:

➢ 4 ACCOUNTING ASSISTANTS

- Good communication skills
- Proficient in Microsoft Excel & Word
- Accounting major
- Experience is an advantage
- Male or Female, not more than 27 years old, preferably single

➢ 1 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- Good communication skills
- Computer literate
- Must be a graduate of 4 or 5 year course
- Experience is an advantage
- Male or Female, not more than 27 years old, preferably single

➢ 1 BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT

- Good communication skills
- Computer literate
- Must be a Marketing graduate or related course
- Must have at least 2 years experience in Marketing and Sales
- Female, not more than 27 years old, preferably single

➢ 1 UTILITY MAN

- Good communication skills
- At least High School graduate
- Experience is an advantage
- Male, not more than 27 years old
- Preferably with NBI and Police Clearance

Pls. hand carry your resumé with recent 2x2 picture and school transcript of records on June 24, 2003 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at PACIFIC EAST ASIA CARGO AIRLINES, INC. at 2nd Floor, International Cargo Terminal Bldg., NAIA Complex, Pasay City.

RMSI
RUSTAN MARKETING SPECIALISTS, INC.

Is in immediate need of a top caliber individual

VISUAL MERCHANDISING MANAGER

- Between 25-30 years old
- Graduate of Fine Arts or any four-year related course from a reputable institution
- Preferably with two (2) years work experience in the same field of specialization
- Must have the capacity and energy for overtime work
- Must have good oral and written communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality
- Must be computer literate

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO E-MAIL OR SEND IMMEDIATELY THEIR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ, TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS AND A RECENT 2X2 PHOTO TO:

RUSTAN MARKETING SPECIALISTS, INC.
Human Resources Management Division
(c/o Executive Administration)
Ground Floor Midland Buendia Bldg.
403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
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FRANCHISE MANAGER
for Ilocos Region, Cagayan Valley, Central Luzon and Bicol Region

- Bachelor's Degree Holder
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- Extensive sales background
- Thorough knowledge of the region
- Competitive and entrepreneurial
- Very strong management and leadership skills
- With effective communication and interpersonal skills
- With knowledge of current trends and emerging marketing initiatives

Send your resume together with 2 x 2 picture and Transcript of Records to 2/F Security Land Bldg., 6797 Herrera cor. Ayala Ave., Makati • Telefax: 815-47[illegible] E-mail: [illegible]@informatics.com.ph

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Job Openings:
- **Scheduler**
- **Executive Secretary**

Qualifications:
- Must be college graduate
- Ages from 20-26 yrs. old
- Male or Female
- Must possess good communication skills both written and oral
- Good Moral Character
- At least 1 year work experience
- Must be computer literate-windows, MS office

Apply personally and bring the ff. requirements:

– Resumé	– Police clearance
– ID picture 1x1 (colored)	– Certification from previous employment
– NBI Clearance	– SSS/Philhealth number

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Needs

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TRAINING and STANDARD COMPLIANCE OFFICERS

Engineering or Education Graduate with good communication skills and willing to move around the country to train & re-train Station Dealers & Staff

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

College Graduate, has strong interest in Marketing & Sales, preferably resident of Batangas, Cavite, Laguna, Bulacan, Pampanga, Nueva Ecija, Zambales, Bataan, Quezon, Cebu, Bacolod, Cagayan de Oro & General Santos.

ACCOUNTANTS / BOOKKEEPERS

Can work independently, has leadership qualities and capable to eventually manage operations of a gasoline station.

Submit Resumé & 2 x 2 photo
Not later than July 4, 2003
Thru:
Fax: (632) 851-7269
E-mail: denzmsk@hotmail.com; daviddennis@consultant.com

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Sales Professionals

A Sales Adviser from One Financial Group typically has a strong sales background, preferably in insurance, real estate or equities. This person has excellent interpersonal skills and entrepreneurial drive, is intelligent, aggressive, persistent and determined, and works well both independently and as part of a team. A Sales Manager has all of the above in addition to significant experience managing a sales team, also preferably in insurance, real estate or equities.

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phone: (63) 2 759-4210
fax: (63) 2 759-4211
address: Suite 912-914, Tower I & Exchange Plaza, Ayala Triangle, Makati City

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(Please include full home address/ tel. no./ mobile, etc.)

WANTED

SENIOR ARCHITECT
Licensed Architect (30-40 yrs. old)/ Min 5 years exp/Proficient in AUTOCADD Release 14 and Architectural Desktop 2i/Able to lead a team of architects

DESIGNER RENDERER
Licensed Architect (25-35 yrs. old) / Min 3 years exp/adept at free hand drawing and sketching / Proficient in AUTOCADD, 3D VIZ, Auto Desk Lightscape and Adobe Photoshop

CAD OPERATOR
Min 3 years experience/Proficient in AUTOCADD Release 14 and Architectural Desktop 2i

Qualified applicants are required to bring bio-data with ID picture and work sample to:

GF & Partners, Architects, Co.
5th Floor, GF & Partners Building
139 H.V. Dela Costa Street
Salcedo Village, Makati City

JOB OPENING

SALES ENGINEER(S)

- ➢ Male or Female, nor more than 28 years old
- ➢ Bachelors Degree
- ➢ With at least 2-3 years relevant experience in field sales

ACCOUNT MANAGER(S)

- ➢ Male or Female, not more than 30 years old
- ➢ Engineering or Marketing graduate
- ➢ With at least 3-5 years relevant experience in field sales and account management

Submit your resumé, transcript & 2x2 picture to:

PRONET SYSTEMS, INC.
HR Department
4th Flr. LCN Bldg. #24 Kabignayan
cor. Banawe St., Quezon City

TUTUBAN PROPERTIES, INC.

We are a multinational company engaged in Real Estate and Development. At present, we are in need of competent people to fill in the following positions:

SALES AUDITOR

- 21-28 years old, BS Accountancy graduate, CPA is a plus
- With at least one year experience in audit and accounting works
- With knowledge in Point-Of-Sale system

MECHANICAL ENGINEER

- 25-32 years old, Licensed Mechanical Engineer
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If you think you are qualified in any of the positions above, please send over your resume with picture to tpi.hrd@tutuban.com.ph or at the

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2/F Administration Office, Tutuban Centermall,
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Whose musical groups have performed in hotels, reputable bars and clubs

For interested parties; please submit your company profile to the address provided below.

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For eminent musicians, please submit your resumé together with your work history and demos.

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Operation Department
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E-mail : music@timesmandarin.com

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* RETAIL SALES & MARKETING MANAGER *
* RETAIL SALES SUPERVISORS *

☐ Female, experience in retail selling and handling consumer products an advantage
☐ Exposed to various selling and promotional techniques
☐ Possesses strong leadership qualities who will be responsible for ensuring proper implementation of all sales and marketing activities to achieve company's goals and objectives

* ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES *

☐ Female, experience in handling institutional/wholesale accounts preferably beauty products
☐ Willing to travel, can work with minimum supervision

Apply in person with your detailed resumé on June 23-27, 2003;
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at:

#78 15th Avenue, Murphy, Cubao, Quezon City
or E-mail to: pavillon143@yahoo.com

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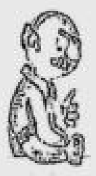

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CIRCULATION FIELDMAN

Qualifications:
- Graduate of any Business Course
- With excellent customer relations skills
- Familiar with the street network of Metro Manila

Responsibilities:
- Visits and monitors agents' sales performance
- Handles inquiries and complaints of agents

DESK EDITORS

Qualifications:
- College graduate major in Journalism or any Social Sciences course
- Must have 3 years experience in newspaper Journalism
- With at least 1 year experience in editing and designing/layouting pages

Responsibilities:
- Coordinates news gathering activities
- Edits stories and designs the layout of newspaper pages

AUDIT SUPERVISOR

Qualifications:
- Accounting graduate, a Certified Public Accountant
- Preferably with MBA units
- 2 years experience in accounting and audit work, 1 year management experience
- Knowledge of General Accounting and Auditing Principles and Procedures
- Knowledge of Standards for Professional Practice of Internal auditing,
- Knowledge of Financial Data analysis, Taxation, Labor Laws.

Responsibilities:
- Supervises audit projects in order to ensure systems and procedures are implemented.
- Audits based on IIA and dept standards to ensure compliance
- Prepares communicates audit reports based on the evaluation/findings and recommends appropriate actions.

Mail your application letter and comprehensive resumé to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD

Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces, Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
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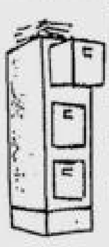

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NEEDS 200 NURSES FOR USA

NO AGENCY OR PLACEMENT FEES

CGFNS/TOEFL/TSE/
NCLEX PASSERS PREFERRED
With 2 years hospital experience

NO CGFNS/TOEFL/TSE/
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Interested applicants must apply in person at

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(beside Domino's Pizza)
1522 Sta. Teresita Street
Villa Donata Subdivision
Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Telephone No. 772-0073 & 772-0074
Cellphone No. (920) 2323093

Applicants must submit the following:

1. Resumé
2. RN License
3. 2x2 Photo
4. College Diploma
5. Certificate of Employment
6. Transcript of Records

All procedures shall strictly conform to POEA regulations.
This is a pre-hiring survey.

JM INTERNATIONAL, INC.
4803 SAMPAGUITA ST. MARIMAR VILL.
SOUTH SUPER HI WAY
PARANAQUE 1712 METRO MANILA, PHILIPPINES
TEL NOS 823-06-09 / 823-06-10 FAX NO (632) 823-06-27
E-mail printer@notasia.net

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GRAND STORES LLC. (Accre: No.: 64132) (UAE)
- **Salesman / Saleslady for Digital Products**
- **Computer Storage Media Specialist** - min of 2-3 yrs exp in sales of DLT/DDS Electronic Computer Engineering background. Hardware and media exposure in LTO/SDLT exp in HP / Compaq / IBM drives
- **Quality Control Technician** - Chemical graduate, thorough knowledge in handling of photochemistry like CN16, CN16Q, CN16FA, C41, C41RA, RA4, CP47L, CP48S and E6 well versed in handling PH meter, Spg Meter and Densometer in mandatory servicing of quality analysis, min of 5 yrs exp
- **Digital Minilab Printer Sales Engineers** - Electronic Engineer with 3 yrs exp in Digital Minilab or Digital Printing Equipment sales and service, good computer knowledge with networking proficiency
  - Above positions must be 23-30 years of age

DALLAH ADVERTISING AGENCY (Registration No. 10019923) (Qatar)
- **INTERIOR DECORATION / DISPLAY ARTIST** - with exp in exhibits

BLUE SALON - Qatar (Accre No. 64107)
- **System Support Engineers**
- **Beauty Consultants**
- **Service Crew** (For Mrs. Fields cookies)
- **Digital Photo Minilab Operators** (Fuji)
- **Salesladies** (watches, jewelries, RTW fashion, etc.)
- **Electronic Consumer Salesman** (Samsung)
  - below 40 yrs old

AL ATHIYA CONTRACTING CO. (Qatar)
- **ROCKBLASTERS** - should be expert in control dynamite blasting for pipe trenches in residential areas

MODERN HOME (Qatar)
- **HOME NURSE / NURSING AID** - 28 yrs old above, to take care of asthmatic child

AL LAYAL BEAUTY SALON (Qatar)
- **ALL AROUND BEAUTICIANS (Female)**

DAR AL SHARQ PRINTING (Qatar)
- **Goss (Web Offset) Printers**
- **Goss (Web Offset) Assistant Printer**
- **Printer** (4 color Sheet Fed Machine)
- **Cutting Machine Operators/Binders**
- **Binder with exp. in Folding/Lamination**

AL NOOR OPTICIAN (KSA)
- **OPTOMETRISTS** - at least 3 yrs exp., license, knowledge in fitting soft contact lenses and can do laboratory works
- **LABORATORY TECHNICIANS** - graduate of Optometry Aid course, at least two yrs. exp

APPLY IMMEDIATELY

submit **3 sets** of the following: resumé with detailed job description, 2x2 colored photos, photocopies of employment certificates, seminars / trainings / awards certificates, transcript of records and diploma, photocopy of Passport & NBI

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Tel Nos. 823-0609 / 823-0610

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Reliable Recruitment Corporation
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In cooperation with Recruitment Int'l. (NZ) Ltd.
Accred. No. 70094

Need 46 Registered Nurses to work in NEW ZEALAND

- At least 2 years solid working experience in a hospital.
- 12 months contract (renewable)
- Salary rate at par with current NZ nurses
- Irresistible benefits
- Deployment as soon as possible
- At least 6 months experience in any of the following:

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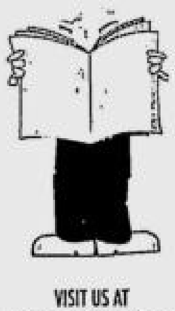

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THE OFW HOUR SHOW
Sarah Balabagan takes a breather with Ambassador Roy Señeres and Angelique Lazo after the taping of her untold story on The OFW Hour show. This episode was aired Saturday, June 21, 5:00 p.m. on RPN. Produced by Star Events, the OFW Hour program is RPN's latest public affairs offering dedicated to the overseas Filipino workers and their families.

Assignment in
SAUDI ARABIA

Electrical Systems Trading, is a leading electrical building and industrial plant contractor based in KSA, which has existing electrical installation projects and a major distributor of electrical equipment from the U.S. They are currently requiring qualified personnel for the following position:

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS

- **Must have a degree in Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering; preferably registered EE**
- **At least 25 to 35 years old;**
- **Must have at least three (3) years of experience in power quality analysis, power systems troubleshooting, and operation and maintenance;**
- **Must have background in AutoCad.**
- **Must have knowledge in transient voltage surge suppressor as well as building and industrial plant maintenance;**
- **With preference in good communication skills.**

**Extensive training in the US awaits successful candidates.*

Interested candidates should drop their comprehensive resume with detailed job description to the given address in a drop box located at the reception lobby or e-mail to vivian.ronario@johnclements.com. Only qualified candidates will be notified of an interview schedule. Visit our website: www.johnclements.com. ***For Manpower Pooling Only. Beware of Illegal Recruiters.***
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Assignment in the
MIDDLE EAST

A.) For AL OTAIBA GROUP OF COMPANIES, one of the biggest car dealers of General Motors in U.A.E.

- ☞ **Auto Electricians**
- ☞ **Diesel Mechanics**
- ☞ **Auto Painters**
- ☞ **Auto Denters**

B.) For FAST CONTRACTING COMPANY, a leading construction company in Saudi Arabia.

- ☞ **Male Executive Secretaries**
- ☞ **Painting & Partition Works Foremen**
- ☞ **Marble & Tiles Installation Foremen**

C.) For AL RAYDAJAN COMPANY, one of the biggest synthetic/culture marble furnishing and decor company in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

- ☞ **Mable Fabricators**

☑ Must have experience working with resin/ gel coat to create cultured marble.
☑ Knowledgeable in treating marble and casting procedures.
☑ Knowledge in precise measurement.

D.) For GULF FURNISHING COMPANY, one of the largest wood furnishing companies in Riyadh, KSA.

- ☞ **Cost Estimators**

☑ Must be graduates of BS Architecture.
☑ With good experience in furniture business.
☑ Computer literate (experience Autocad 2000 / Corel /Adobe)

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Assignment in
SAUDI ARABIA

I. Arabian Consulting Engineering Center – *one of the biggest engineering/consulting firm in Saudi Arabia based in Al-Khobar needs the following for its Construction Management Project.* **(ACCRE# 72602-1)**

- **PROJECT MANAGER**
- **PROJECT SUPERINTENDENT**
- **MECHANICAL/PIPING ENGINEER**
- **INSTRUMENT ENGINEER**
- **ELECTRICAL ENGINEER**
- **QA/QC ENGINEER**
- **SAFETY ENGINEER**
- **EXPEDITER/ SECRETARY**

II. Fast Contracting Company – *a leading construction company.*

- **ELECTRICAL COST ESTIMATORS**
  - At least 7 years experience in electrical cost estimates.
- **MECHANICAL COST ESTIMATORS**
  - At least 7 years experience in mechanical cost estimates.

III. Al-Jomaih Bottling and Can Making Plants – *is the official bottler and distributor for* ***PEPSI range of products*** *in the Central and Northern Regions of Saudi Arabia.* **(ACCRE# 72758)**

- **ELECTRICAL/ ELECTRONICS TECHNICIANS**
  - Experience of reading electrical charts and be familiar with electrical/electronic equipments in the beverage/bottling industry
- **MACHINE OPERATORS**
  - Experience in beverage industry machine operation/ maintenance and/or can making industries

IV. Al Hamdan Consulting Company – *a prestigious engineering/consulting company.*

- **ARCHITECTS**
  - At least 10 years design experience in Petrochem, Oil & Gas and Refinery Environment.
- **HVAC ENGINEERS**
  - At least 7 years design experience.
- **ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS**
  - At least 8 years design and construction experience.
- **ME/PROCESS ENGINEERS**
  - Experience in Petrochem plants, Oil & Gas Facilities and Refineries.

Interested candidates should drop their comprehensive resume with detailed job description to the given address in a drop box located at the reception lobby or e-mail to ramon.quevedo@johnclements.com. Only qualified candidates will be notified of an interview schedule. Visit our website: www.johnclements.com. ***For Manpower Pooling Only. Beware of Illegal Recruiters.***
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EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION TECHNIQUES

Commonsense listening tips

By Dr. Tony Alessandra

(This is the second part of the article on listening. The first part was published last June 8, 2003.)

WHEN conversing with another person, be aware of and practice the following rules:

1. Use feedback.

Constantly try to check your understanding of what you hear. Do not only hear what you want to hear. In addition, check to see if the other person wants to comment or respond to what you have previously said. Archie and Edith could have avoided many misunderstandings by simply using feedback.

2. Listen selectively.

Critical messages may be hidden within the broader context of a conversation. Listen in such a way that you can separate the wheat from the chaff. Always ask yourself: "What is he telling me that can help me satisfy his needs, solve his problems, and accomplish his goals?"

3. Relax.

When another person speaks, try to put him at ease by creating a relaxed, accepting environment. Do not give the speaker the impression that you want to jump right in and speak. Give him a chance to speak his mind.

4. Try not to be critical of the other person's point of view.

Hold your temper and your emotional feelings and try to listen to truly understand. Be patient. Allow the speaker plenty of time to fully finish his train of thought. You might find that what you were initially going to disagree with wasn't such a bad idea after all. Keep an open mind. If you give the other person half a chance to tell you his views, you might find that you have learned something.

5. Listen attentively.

Face the speaker with uncrossed arms and legs; lean slightly forward. Establish gentle, intermittent eye contact. Use affirmative head nods and appropriate facial expressions when called for, but do not overdo it. Occasionally respond to your customer with "uh huh," "go on" or "yes" to demonstrate that you are listening.

6. Create a positive listening environment.

Shoot for a private atmosphere away from sources of distraction. Make the effort to ensure that the environment is conducive to effective listening.

7. Ask questions.

Ask open-ended questions to allow the speaker to express his feelings and thoughts. A simple "yes" or "no" is not enough. Use development questions like "How can I help you?" or "Where do we go from here?" to ask the speaker for more details on specific subjects. Clarifying questions seek information by restating the speaker's remarks.

These techniques demonstrate that you're hearing correctly. If you keep the other person talking, potential ambiguities clear up. The effective use of questions also allows you to contribute to the conversation.

8. Be motivated to listen.

Without the proper attitude all the foregoing suggestions for effective listening are worthless. Try to keep in mind that there is no such thing as an uninteresting speaker, only disinterested listeners. Put out the extra effort to try to listen.

Learning to listen effectively pays off in stronger trust bonds and increased sales. Others feel relieved to find people who actively listen and try to understand what they have to say about their problems and needs. Once that occurs, the speaker generally reciprocates by listening when it's the other person's turn to speak. That leads to an open, honest information exchange. Isn't that what communication is all about?

(Copyright 2003 by Dr. Tony Alessandra, used with permission. For feedback or information regarding Tony's products or services, please contact info@alessandra.com, www.alessandra.com.)

ILLUSTRATION BY JED ESTRADA

Cell phones and work

PEOPLE at Work and the Ateneo Center for Organization Research and Development (Ateneo CORD) partner to listen to the heartbeats of working people through this People at Work Pulse.

Is your pulse rate a bit too fast due to stress? Is it slowing down due to asphyxiation from traffic fumes? Or is it just beating happily to the rhythm of life? Your thoughts, feelings and beliefs on various workplace issues close to your hearts, when shared, can contribute to transforming our workplaces into more human-friendly places to work in.

This "pulse" check will be conducted once a month. The results of this poll will be published the following month. To quicken your response rates, Philippine Daily Inquirer and Ateneo CORD will be giving gift packages to two respondents to be drawn from those who replied for the month.

1. How useful are cell phones in the kind of work you do?
   - ☐ a. I can work fine without one.
   - ☐ b. It distracts workers from work-related duties.
   - ☐ c. It is sometimes useful.
   - ☐ d. I can't work without it.
2. Do you entertain business related calls/text after office hours?
   - ☐ a. No
   - ☐ b. Only if urgent
   - ☐ c. Yes, only during weekdays
   - ☐ d. Yes, even during weekends
3. Does your company provide for cell phone subsidy?
   - ☐ a. My company provided me a phone
   - ☐ b. My company reimburses me for business related phone expenses
   - ☐ c. My company provides an allowance for phone expenses
   - ☐ d. Nope, my phone, my expense
4. How much do you spend a month on business related phone expenses?
   - ☐ a. Less than P500
   - ☐ b. P 501 to P 1000
   - ☐ c. P1001 to P 2500
   - ☐ d. More than P2500

Name: ____________________

Position: ____________________

Company Name: ____________________

Industry: ____________________

Tel/Mobile/Email: ____________________

Mail or fax this form or email/text your answers to:

People at Work Pulse
Ateneo Center for Organization
Research and Development
2F Hoffner Bldg.
Social Development Complex
Ateneo de Manila University
Loyola Heights, Quezon City.
Fax No. (632) 426-6065

Email: *ateneocord@admu.edu.ph* or text answers to (0920)831-9522. Write: *topic 1.(answer), 2. (answer), etc. name, position, company, address, contact #s or email*

(Last month's winners are Venus Zosa and Oliver Amorosa)

Biases...

(From page J14)

A researcher friend of mine did a survey of the aspirations of Muslim families in Mindanao. Do you know that there was little difference between the desires of Christians and Muslim families? All yearn for education for their children, gainful employment and food on the table. What is unfortunate is many of the predominantly Muslim provinces are also the high poverty level areas. Only a small percentage of them are able to get quality education. Sometimes when the media presents body counts of people who died in battle, both soldiers or MILFs or innocent bystanders, let us remember that behind each one are families who grieve.

Now what is the art of Christian loving that will allow you to dialogue and be friends with your Muslim officemate? Chiara Lubich, foundress of the Focolare Movement makes the following suggestions. One is to try to be one. Empty yourself of your ideas, prejudices and accept her as she is as a person. Two, be the first one to love. Three, love without expecting anything in return. Four, love everyone. Befriending your Muslim friend need not be to the exclusion of others. If you practice this art, then you will realize how many things you and your friend share in common. It is important to emphasize the things that you have in common rather than the differences.

Look at your friendship as an adventure, new things to learn and discover everyday. Thanks for your letter. God bless you!

(Ms Puangco is CEO and chair of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting. Send comments, feedback or requests for advice through e-mail to advice@ancillaedc.com.ph *or fax to 892-2902.)*

A **GROWING EXPORT MANUFACTURING FIRM** is in need of the following positions for its Immediate Business Expansion:

INTERNAL AUDITOR

- Must be a Certified Public Accountant
- Minimum experience of four years
- Superior analytical skills
- Experience in setting-up a company's internal controls (financial and physical)
- Experience with an auditing firm is an advantage

He/she will be responsible for the following:

- *Review and evaluate* the company's existing internal controls
- *Design, recommend, and implement* the alternative ways on how to improve the company's existing internal control structure
- *Monitor* the company's internal control structure
- *Create and prepare* the company's manual for its internal control policies and procedure
- *Perform ad hoc functions* that maybe required by senior management.

ACCOUNTING MANAGER

- Must be a Certified Public Accountant
- Minimum experience of five years
- Excellent analytical and creative skills
- Willing to perform extensive research work

He/she should also have a good working knowledge of the following:

- Any *accounting software* that can be applied in a manufacturing setting, experience in the application of *"Peachtree"* accounting software is an advantage
- Accounting for *process costing*
- Tax and other government *regulatory requirements*
- Accounting for *foreign operations* (translation currency adjustment)
- Reporting guidelines for entities registered with *PEZA or BOI*
- Basic corporate accounting systems, internal controls, and reporting *policies and procedures*

KEY ACCOUNT SPECIALIST

Male or Female, not more than 35 years old. Good communication and interpersonal skills. Experience with marketing consumer products in GMA supermarkets. Experience as field coordinator / merchandising supervisor will also be considered. Candidate must possess excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

Successful applicants should be willing and able to work on weekends and holidays when necessary. They should also have verifiable professional and moral background.

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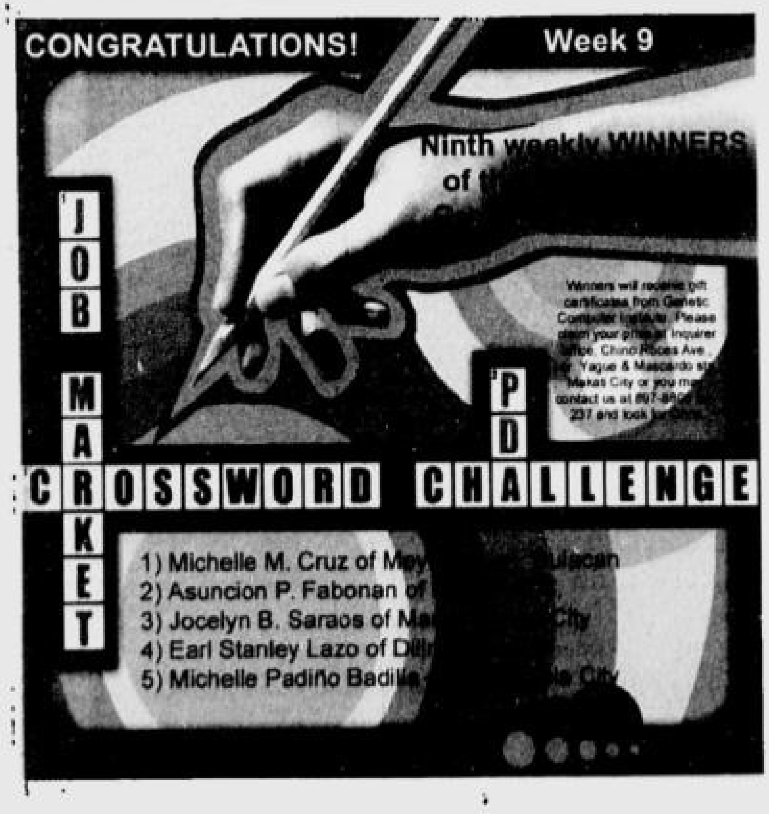
Due to the urgency of the requirements we will respond only to qualified applicants. The deadline for submission of requirements is on **July 15, 2003.**



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1) Michelle M. Cruz of Mey[illegible]ulacan
2) Asuncion P. Fabonan of [illegible]
3) Jocelyn B. Saraos of Ma[illegible] City
4) Earl Stanley Lazo of D[illegible]
5) Michelle Padiño Badil[illegible] City

Winners will receive gift certificates from Genetic Computer Institute. Please claim your prizes at Inquirer office, Chino Roces Ave., cor. Yague & Mascardo sts., Makati City or you may contact us at 897-8808 loc. 237 and look for [illegible].

A Publishing Company Needs the following staff for its Marketing Dept.

Account Director
Account Manager

- Min. 3 yrs. Account servicing experience in a magazine publication
- Proficient in oral & written English
- Strong interpersonal, communication & organization skills
- Team player who can work with minimum supervision
- Knowledge of various computer softwares (i.e. powerpoint, excel etc.)

Kindly indicate the position you are applying and send your comprehensive resumé with expected salary to: The Managing Director, Rm 41, Matrinco Bldg., 2178 Pasong Tamo, Makati City or e-mail thru: pilsigns1@i-manila.com.ph. We will not entertain walk-in applicants. Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

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- College Graduate in
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Chemistry
Mechanical Engineering
- Refrigeration and Aircon Engineer
- Architect / Draftsman
Carpenter / Plumber / Welder & Painter

Please bring your photo and bio-data with transcript of records to:

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(Word docuemnt format only)

JARDINE CALDBECK

Jardine Caldbeck Philippines, Inc.

Jardine Caldbeck Philippines Inc., a multinational company with offices in strategic cities across the Asia-Pacific region and engaged in the marketing and distribution of international premium wines and spirits brands, has an opening for the position of:

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Interested parties should strictly follow the procedure below:

- Send resumé by e-mail or post, to be received by July 4, 2003 latest.
- Indicate clearly at the top of your resumé your salary expectation.
- Send to:

kay. siscar@jardinecaldbeck.com.ph or
Jardine Caldbeck Philippines, Inc.
3/F Jardine Davies Building, 222 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave.
Makati City

The **Acropolis North Water Camp and Country Club**, a membership water park, sports, dining and lodging facility in Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija, is currently looking for qualified personnel to fill up the following positions:

RESIDENT MANAGER
ACCOUNTANT
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
HEAD COOK
ASSISTANT COOK
COOK HELPER
BARTENDER
SODA TENDER
HOUSEKEEPER
LIFEGUARDS
SWIMMING POOL ATTENDANT

Applicants with hotel, resort or country club experience are preferred and who are willing to work on weekends and holidays. Those residing in Cabanatuan and neighboring areas will be given priority.

The above requirements are urgent. Interested applicants may apply personally or send their resumé with the latest 2x2 picture on or before 25 June 2003 to:

MANILA OFFICE:
Sta. Lucia Realty Bldg., J-10 Amang Rodriguez Ave., Santolan, Pasig City
Tel. # : 916-8109
Fax # : 645-8785
Contact Person : Cecil Ruth Mendoza

CABANATUAN OFFICE:
Acropolis North Water Camp
Maharlika H-way, Brgy. Sumacab Este
Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija

Contact Person: **Engr. Fernando Patricio**

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- ✓ At least 30 years old, college graduates
- ✓ Residents of Las Piñas, Muntinlupa, Parañaque, Pasay, Laguna, Cavite, & Batangas
- ✓ With at least 2 years experience in sales (real estate, cars, travel, books, advertising, telemarketing, pre-need, direct selling, non-life or life insurance) are preferred. Teachers/tutors, OFWs, fitness instructors, secretaries, medreps, entertainment/talent coordinators are also welcome
- ✓ Those with sales management experience and existing sales teams will have a distinct advantage for the positions of Unit Managers and Management Trainees.
- ✓ Good communication skills in English. Ability to speak in Chinese and/or Niponggo are added advantages.

Monthly allowance, basic and override commissions, local and international travels, other bonuses and incentives await qualified applicants. Training will be provided to help in their advancement.

Interested parties may send their detailed resume with latest photo to

THE ADM
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3/F, Sycamore Center, Buencamino cor. Alabang-Zapote Rd, Alabang, Muntinlupa City
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SALES EXECUTIVES

- Graduate of any business course from a reputable school
- Preferably with at least two years sales experience in the service industry
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Assertive and self-motivated
- Male/Female, not more than 30 years old

Competitive compensation and a rewarding professional career await successful candidates

Qualified applicants are requested to send or e-mail their resumé with photo to:

Ms. Armela Cruz
Recruitment & Training Group
1331 Angono St., Makati City
E-mail Address: hrd@ubix.com.ph

Previous applicants need not apply

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Applicants must be business-related course graduates, not over 25 years old, computer literate, has pleasing personality, with excellent communication skills, and able to work under minimum supervision. Send application letter, curriculum vitae, transcript of records and colored photo to Box no. MK-105 c/o Classified Ads Dept., PDI, G/F Atrium of Makati, Makati City.

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- BS-Industrial Engr. or Accounting graduate
- Preferably CPA and with related job experience in external or internal audit, accounting, methods systems analysis and designs
- With IT/Audit background
- Reliable, hardworking, trustworthy, with good moral character

Those who meet the qualifications mentioned may send their comprehensive resumé with contact number, 2x2 recent picture with transcript of records to:

RUSTAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION
Human Resource & Organization Development Division
El Mercasol Bldg., EDSA, Mandaluyong City
(near Ortigas Fly-Over, beside Barrio Fiesta)

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For a leading manufacturer of technical parts.

You will manage the operation of a division of the company and help to ensure that overall company objectives are being met. This includes overseeing activities in marketing, sales, accounting and human resources.

Part of your job will be to attend relevant exhibitions and shows and to interact with local and foreign clients and suppliers in order to strengthen relationship.

You will have the chance to work in a dynamic, challenging environment with excellent business opportunities.

The ideal candidate, male or female, is 30 to 40 years of age, with an MBA degree and a proven track record in management, possibly in a manufacturing company. He/she must be highly professional with strong leadership skills and a high degree of personal and business integrity.

If you think you fit these requirements, please forward your resumé with most recent salary history by e-mail or fax to the following address:

e-mail: admin@mavenhurst.com
Fax: 807-4988

HELICOPTER ENGINEER

A regional Aviation Maintenance Company based in the Philippines wishes to employ experienced Helicopter Engineers with the following minimum qualifications:

- √ Must have an Engineer's License from the Philippine Air Transportation Office.
- √ With at least 5 years Helicopter Maintenance experience.
- √ Experience on Bell, Eurocopter, MD and Sikorsky would be a distinct advantage.
- √ Fluent in oral and written English.
- √ Must have training from an approved Manufacturer's Training Facility.

Please mail your application letter, resumé, academic and training records, and recent photograph before 30 June 2003 to:

Box No. MN-2045
Philippine Daily Inquirer
c/o Classified Ads Division
Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague
and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

INVESTIGATION & INSPECTION MANAGER

Male, not more than 40 years old and College Graduate 4 year course, preferably Business Administration. Excellent oral and written communication skill. High degree of initiative, flexibility and resourcefulness with strong drive for efficiency and results. Minimum of 5 years experience investigation and preparation of security survey report. Certified Security Professional will be an advantage.

ADMIN AND PHYSICAL FACILITIES MANAGER

Male or Female, not more than 40 years old, graduate of Business Administration or Engineering. With extensive experience in marketing and maintenance of condominium or building.

MANPOWER SERVICES SUPERVISOR

Male, not more than 35 years old and college graduate. With minimum of 3 years work experience in handling manpower services. Knowledgeable in MS Office and knows how to drive.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Female, 25-30 years old and graduate of 4 year course, preferably Business Administration. Excellent oral and written communication skill, both English and Tagalog. High degree of initiative, flexibility and resourcefulness with strong drive for efficiency and results. Minimum of 5 years experience in secretarial and administrative work, preferably with CEO or high ranking official.

Send your resumé at:

P.O. Box 10378 or
E-mail at: agleham_147@hotmail.com

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AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, CANADA & UNITED KINGDOM*

* For those who have relatives working in the United Kingdom

Immigration Seminars are held every SATURDAY, 9am & 2pm. Avail of our Assessment and Consultation after the Seminar. Bring an updated resume for evaluation. Seminar Fee: P350. Call for reservation.

ADD Force Immigration International Institute

A well-established Lighting and Electrical Devices distributor is in need of:

Electrical Engineer

Applicant must be a licensed Electrical Engineer, below 30 years of age, with working experience in related field, knowledge in Lighting & Electrical devices preferred, computer literate, with good moral character & excellent communication skills. Interested parties may call Tel: 243-8250 to 53 and look for Ms. Jennifer for appointment.

KANEPACKAGE PHILIPPINE, INC.
#5 Ring Rd., LISP II, Brgy. Lamesa, Calamba, Laguna

POSITION	AGE	SEX	QUALIFICATION/S
QA Manager/ QA Asst. Manager	25-35	MF	At least 2 yrs experience in a manufacturing set-up preferably in packaging products and/or Japanese Company, knowledge in ISO is an advantage
GA Manager/ GA Asst. Manager	35-40	F	College graduate, HR practitioner w/ good leadership skills, at least 5 yrs experience, hard working, result-roeinted, honest, willing to work long hours, w/ good communication skills Computer literate (MS Office), good moral Character, analytical and a team-player
Purchasing Staff	20-28	F	College graduate, pro-active, hardworking, honest, willing to work long hours, good communication skills, good negotaition skills, computer literate (MS Office), good moral character, action-oriented analytical and team player
Telephone Operator	20-28	F	College graduate, pro-active, customer oriented, hardworking, honest, willing to work long hours, good communication skills, w/ pleasant voice, good moral character and action-oriented
Company Driver	24-33	M	College level, with professional driver's license, hardworking, willing to work long hours, honest with good communication skills, good moral character and analytical
Customer in Charge	20-28	F	College graduate, pro-active, customer oriented Hardworking, honest, willing to work long hours w/ good communication skills, computer literate (MS Office), w/ good moral character, action-oriented & team player
Sales Representative	20-33	M/F	College graduate, w/ at least 2 yrs experience in a manufacturing set-up, pro-active, hardworking, honest, willing to work long hours, good communication skills, computer literate (MS Office), good moral character, knows how to drive

Interested applicants, pls. bring your resumé with 2x2 photo From Monday to Friday, 1 to 3 p.m.

CPILS **Cebu Pacific International Language Services, Inc.**

A pioneering tutorial services specializing in English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction to Asian students is in need of the following:

- **FULL-TIME ESL INSTRUCTORS (Native English Speakers)**
  - Between 30-50 years old
  - Must have a Philippine resident visa
  - Must have bachelor's degree or CELTA/TEFL/TESL certificate
  - ESL/EFL teaching experience is an advantage
  - Must be energetic, outgoing and creative
  - Must possess good interpersonal skills

Applicants must submit their application letter with recent 2x2 picture, resumé, TOR, certificate of employment/recommendation letter to:

The Personnel Director
Cebu Pacific International Language Services
Benedicto Building (formerly Harbor View Hotel)
M.J. Cuenco Avenue, Cebu City
Telephone No. 416-7637 (c/o Ms. Reshnee)
or e-mail your application & resumé to:
gracefb@mailcity.com

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EMAIL: nurses@whiteglovecare.com, FAX Resume: 718-387-8359
Visit us online at www.whiteglovecare.com

JOB MARKET Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS BUT ONCE.

Searching for the global Pinoy is company's mission

By Cecile G. Garcia

HR Focus

"FILIPINO executives are at par with the best in the region and are much in demand because they adapt easily to different cultures," says Nerissa S. Reyes, president of Asia Partnership Philippines, Inc. (APPI), a cross-cultural executive search firm. "We place a number of Filipinos as finance managers and bankers. They can also compete globally with other IT professionals."

In 1995, Reyes established APPI, a local affiliate of the Asia Partnership Group based in Sydney, Australia "to set up a highly professional cross-cultural executive search firm that would help Filipino professionals gain employment in the Asian region." APPI, adds Reyes, belongs to a worldwide network of executive search firms. It is engaged in search and recruitment consultancy, servicing multinational as well as local companies in various industries including banking, IT and call centers. "Our job is to find the right people for companies in need of them," says Reyes. This is done regionally for placements in the executive level. For the local market, placements are done in all levels.

Role model

Reyes exemplifies the global Filipino executive. She's a CPA, educated at St. Theresa's College, and has an MBA from De La Salle University. She worked as a finance manager for several Indonesian conglomerates while living in Jakarta with her husband, who was then with SGV/Andersen Consulting. Later on, she set up a local executive search firm with an Indonesian partner. She recalls placing a number of Filipinos as finance managers and accountants during the boom in Indonesia in the early 90s.

After 17 years in Jakarta, Reyes moved with her family to Sydney where she was a partner in the Asia Partnership Group before she put up APPI.

As head of the firm, she travels frequently, shuttling between Sydney where she has been based for nine years, and Manila, as well as other Asian countries. Explains Reyes, "My role in the company is strategic. I need to keep in touch and look for new associates and clients in the region. I look at the worldwide perspective and develop new international business contacts for the company." She notes that improving the quality of Philippine operations is an ongoing concern.

Seeing the fast growth of the call center industry, Reyes established Asia Call Center Link as an addition to the services offered by APPI. She avers, "We manage some call centers in the Philippines and staff them. We train applicants, particularly in customer service and English." Because they have to compete with international standards, applicants' lack of English communication skills is a common problem. "Usually we can only place about 10 percent of the applicants," says Reyes.

Call center hub

While she envisions seeing the Philippines develop into a call center hub, she would also like to be a leader in this new industry, pioneering in training and consultancy. Asia Call Center Link, according to Reyes, works closely with the Federation of Call Centers Industry and is bringing in foreign consultants and partners.

HR outsourcing is very much the trend nowadays, according to Reyes. APPI handles HR outsourcing albeit on a limited scale, with two or three clients at a given time.

Reyes attributes APPI's success basically to its professionalism. Maintaining professionalism at the highest level is, in fact, part of the company's vision. "We try to provide the most qualified candidate within the shortest time possible. We make sure our clients are happy with the candidate we place. Our network expands because word goes around. This is how we get repeat business," says Reyes. Their core value, she adds, is respect—for the client, the candidate and for each other.

Importance of consultants

The loyalty of its consultants is another factor in the success of the company. Their consultants, says Reyes, are their main promoters. Besides protecting the image of the company, they share its vision and are strongly motivated because they feel they are part of the organization. Reyes underlines the importance of encouraging consultants to understand the industry and the needs of both the client and candidate.

PHOTO BY JOHNNY VILLENA

REYES

For her part, Reyes feels bringing in world-class standards has been her most significant contribution to the growth and success of APPI. Understandably, a large part of their business comes from the region, their clients being mostly multinational corporations. "I suppose what makes us different is our international perspective," she says.

Reyes says she would like to make her company the "benchmark of recruitment firms," setting the standards for the rest and leaving its own indelible mark.

Is the Internet a real business tool or a toy?

WORKING WOUNDED

Bob Rosner

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

DEAR WW: I'm the marketing VP for a manufacturing company. My CEO came in this week and told me he wanted a web site right away. His kid's fourth grade class has its own homepage and his kid is teasing him because his company doesn't. I don't even own a modem...

Stuck In My Own Web

I remember the day in grammar school when my pal, Mark, asked, "if a tree fell in the forest and no one heard it, would it make a noise?" We'd never heard that one before and it promptly divided the class into camps: those who felt it would make a noise; those who felt it wouldn't; those who couldn't figure out why a perfectly good tree would suddenly fall; and those who were too busy shooting spit balls to care. Well, the Internet is like that forest—and the question for you is: will your 'Net efforts be heard?

The answer is probably yes, because despite its miserable faddishness, the Internet's here to stay and it's changing the way we do business. So get a modem and start surfing. I'd also check out The Internet Strategy Handbook (edited by Mary Cronin, HBS Press, 1996) which reveals the Internet strategy of major corporations including Dow Jones, Digital Equipment, and others.

The following questions can help to focus your efforts:

Why do you need a presence on the Internet? Companies use the 'Net to sell products, to disseminate information (product brochures, price lists, service info, and so on), and to create a community of loyal customers who can use your site to chat. But that's not the real beauty of the Web. Its greatest benefit is its interactivity. Your customers can talk back! That means they can tell you what they're interested in, what they like and don't like about your products, services and prices, and how you can serve them better. It's an ear to the ground that you can update at a moment's notice at minimal cost.

Who are you trying to reach? The Internet is your ultimate opportunity to narrowcast. Once Web visitors tell you their interests, your site can automatically route them to the information they'll be most interested in.

Which means that if you take the time to analyze your audience, you can deliver remarkably targeted pitches to each of your sub-markets quickly and efficiently.

Can you make money from the Web? Most Web sites are money-losers (or loss leaders, as their webmasters like to say). But, increasingly, companies will make money—by selling products, by selling information acquired from visitors to their sites, and by selling ads. Can you sell your products on the Web? Are there companies that might want to advertise on your site in order to reach your customers? Neither avenue is likely to produce income right away, but if you start developing them now, you'll be well positioned in the future when the market heats up.

These days it seems that the Internet is the answer no matter what the question. But if you look past the hype I think you'll find a cost-effective way to interact with the key constituencies of your business. So start surfing, and as you're hanging 10 (fingers, that is) keep track of the sites you like and note who developed them. If you decide to make the leap to the 'Net you'll already have a list of people whose work you admire. But if you still need more help, there's a certain fourth grade class...

(Mr. Rosner is the author of "The Boss's Survival Guide," McGraw Hill 2001, and "Working Wounded," Warner 2000, a speaker and founder of the award-winning Working Wounded.com and Retention Evangelist.com. He is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. Email him at bob@working wounded.com.*)*

HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL

Vivre debout

is in need of an **ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT** with the following qualifications:

- Accounting graduate, CPA licensure not required
- At least 2 years work experience in bookkeeping or accounting
- Above average oral and written communication skills
- Responsible, well-organized and can work with less supervision
- Preferably with experience in an NGO

THIS POSITION IS FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

Please send your resumé and/or CV through mail, fax or e-mail to:

HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL
Maria Lorna N. Cusi
42 Ponce Street San Lorenzo Village, 1223 Makati City
Telefax No. (02) 817 0147
E-mail: hiphil@skyinet.net

Rustan's

Urgently needs...

KEY ACCOUNTS MANAGER

- Graduate of a 4-year business related course
- Preferably with 2 years work experience in sales in the fast moving consumer goods, retail, or fashion industries or experience in account management
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Aggressive with pleasing personality
- MS Windows Literate

Those who meet the qualifications mentioned may send their comprehensive resumé with contact number, transcript of records and a recent 2x2 photo to:

RUSTAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION
HUMAN RESOURCE & ORGANIZATION DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
El Mercasol Bldg.
EDSA, Mandaluyong City
(near Ortigas Fly Over, beside Barrio Fiesta in EDSA)

The Manila Times

needs the following:

SALES AND MARKETING REPRESENTATIVES
(for Southern & Northern Luzon Offices)

- Marketing or any business course graduate
- Preferably with knowledge and experience in advertising and publication selling
- Aggressive and can work under minimum supervision
- With excellent oral and written skills
- Computer literate

LIBRARIAN
(For Manila Office)

- Graduate of B.S. Library Science w/ PRC License
- Preferably with experience
- Computer literate

Interested applicants may send their resume and latest 2 x 2 photo to:
Human Resource Department
The Manila Times
371 A. Bonifacio Drive,
Port Area, Manila

Or e-mail us at: hrd@manilatimes. net

ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANCIES

Region: 13: Agency: DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY-COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM-NATIONAL PROGRAM OFFICE

Position: Trade Industry Development Specialist

Salary Grade: 15
Number of Vacant Position: 1
Item Number: Contractual
Qualification: Bachelor's degree relevant to the job preferably experienced in project development, development management, business counseling and/or community organizing, experience in the preparation and evaluation of project proposals and feasibility studies, proficiency in English language, computer literacy (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Access), willingness to go on local travels; Career Service (Professional) Second Level Eligibility.

Region: 13: Agency: DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY-COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM-NATIONAL PROGRAM OFFICE

Position: Supervising Trade Industry Development Specialist

Salary Grade: 22
Number of Vacant Position: 1
Item Number: Contractual
Qualification: Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; one year supervisory experience in project development, development management, business counseling and/or community organizing, experience in the preparation and evaluation of the project proposals and feasibility studies, proficiency in the English language, computer literacy (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Access) willingness to go on local travels; Career Service (Professional) Second Level Eligibility.

Please submit application letter with detailed resumé and transcript of records as soon as possible to:

The PROGRAM MANAGER
DTI-CARP NPO
4th Oppen Building
349 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue,
Makati City

TECHNICAL STAFF

- BS ChE or BS Chem or Masteral graduate, Male, Licensed
- Presently working as a lecturer in University subjects specially Inorganic and Organic Chemistry
- Few years experience in operation or plants related to textile, paper and leather is an advantage
- Preferably residing in Metro Manila and a holder of Driver's License

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- Female, single, not more than 30 years old
- Graduate of any four-year college course
- With experience as Personal Secretary reporting to Senior Executive
- Knowledge of Chinese Language

CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSISTANT

- Female, 20-28 years old, single, college graduate
- With experience in handling PABX types of telephone system or in office receptionist is an advantage
- Receiving customers or visitors and coordinating with various Departments

Interested Applicants may call:
Tel. No. 361-6669 or may send thru: P.O. Box 1854 Q.C.

MARKETING ASSISTANT

- with exp. in consumer health product sales

Contact:
Pertma Corporation
at 723-9380 to 81.
Look for Rima to set appoint for immediate interview.

Wanted Immediately
1-chemist
1-medtech
Qualifications:

- with license
- at least 1 year experience / bring bio-data
- male or female, 21-30 years old
- preferably Parañaque City residents

Pls. Call
Dr. Minda Timtiman
821-4938 / 823-0857 (off)
For Appointment

A dynamic and fast growing foreign manufacturer of Radio and Electrical Household Appliance and OEM Product is seeking for the following positions:

SENIOR ELECTRONIC ENGINEER

Diploma or above in Electronic/ Electrical Engineering
Minimum of 3 to 5 years work experience in Audio, Electronic consumer products and Household Electrical Appliances
Familiar with Circuit Board Design, P.C.B. layout, project follow-up
Knowledgeable in UL, EN Safety Standard, and ECC, EMC International Standard
Experience in Auto CAD & pro-engineer drafting, electronic circuit design and evaluation
Feasibility study on new technology for design

MECHANICAL ENGINEER/ SENIOR PROJECT ENGINEER

Diploma or above in Mechanical/ Manufacturing/ Electrical Engineering
Minimum of 3 to 5 years experience in manufacturing field of Home Appliance Products
Familiar with parts and molding design project follow-up
Good knowledge in product safety approval such as UL/ VDE/ BS etc.
Strong in project follow-up skills
Mature with good communication skills
Self motivated and can work independently
Knowledge of technical drawing

Fluent in spoken and written English, knowledge of Mandarin an advantage.

Interested parties please apply with full resume, current/ expected salary/ contact number together with a recent photograph and send to: PERSONNEL MANAGER, Email: **PRO@smartlife.com.hk**

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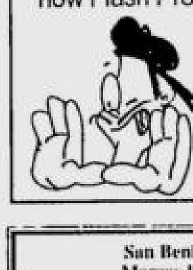
Become a digitial multimedia artist and create amazing websites, dazzling presentations, engaging games and a whole lot more. Call us now and learn how Flash Pro can help you.



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FLASHPRO

San Benildo Integrated School
Marcos Highway, Cainta, Rizal
Is in need of

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

with the following qualifications

- BS Accounting graduate & computer literate
- Preferably a resident of the area
- With at least two years of experience in payroll, bookkeeping, billing, and government reports

Applicants should bring the following:

- Letter of application and resumé with picture
- Transcript of records and recommendation from previous employer
- NBI and Xerox copy of Birth and Baptismal Certificate

For inquiries please contact
Ms. Carolyn Sebanes / Tel. No. 681-1715

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TERADYNE

Is the world's largest supplier of automatic test equipment and software for the telecommunications and electronics industries. Its Repair Center facility in Cebu has been in operation since 1996 and its Customer Care Center which recently opened in 2003 employs more than 100 personnel engaged in parts and repair services support for mixed signal, VLSI and memory testing. With the unprecedented growth of the Company, we are looking for individuals who are creative, aggressive, and mature to fill up the following positions:

Global
Customer
Services

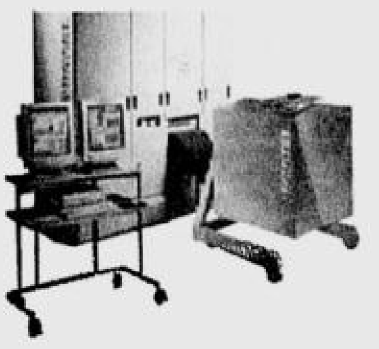
(1) TEST REPAIR SUPERVISOR

The position will directly report to the Repair Operations Manager and is responsible for supervising the activities of a business unit in the repair operations. He shall assess personnel and material levels to determine repair operation schedules. Assigns personnel and monitors the process workflow through the repair operations area. Higher job levels establish operating polices/procedures, coordinates multiple function with the repair operations as well as other related functional groups in the Cebu organization, and establishes strategic plans to ensure repair goals are met within the set quality and cost objectives. He shall also be responsible for safety of personnel, company assets and the surrounding environment within his area.

Qualifications:

- The candidate must be at least a four (4) years college degree holder.
- At least 5 years work experience and the ability to manage a group between 25-35 personnel.
- Possesses strong leadership skills and is flexible in dealing with employees.
- Has good communication skills and can relate well to people.
- Exposure in planning, organizing and executing activities or any other related works in terms of managing a group is an advantage.

(1) TECHNICAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR – CALL CENTER



Primary responsibility will be to manage the daily operation of GCS Technical Support Call Center including the real-time monitoring of the call center's performance, case load management and escalation throughout the field support and product groups, coordination of second tier support from Global Field Service (GFS) and Test Assistance Group (TAG) and evolve the call center into a Solution-Centered-Support-Group that will increase its effectiveness though the use of a Knowledge Management System. The candidate must have strong communication and customer relationship skills and will actively participate in the development of operational procedures, budgeting and staffing.
GCS Business Hours: Monday-Sunday (7x24)
Work Hours: 5 scheduled days that may include weekends, holidays and on-call. May work at night shift.

Education/Training/Skills/Experience Required:

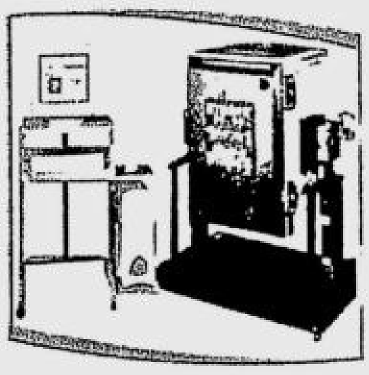
- Holder of a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering (preferably related to high technology).
- Willing to relocate to Cebu on a permanent basis.
- Well versed with Customer Support Operations particularly with Semiconductor companies.
- Familiar with Performance Measurement & Management and Workforce Planning.
- 2-4 years management experience; knowledge in Recruiting Strategies
- Excellent communications, leadership, organizational, and computer skills. Preferably proficient in English language.
- Ability to function in a fast paced environment. Professional attitude and ability to be flexible in dealing with change.
- Knowledge in running a Technical Call Center is a plus.

(3) TEST DESIGN/FAILURE ANALYSIS ENGINEERS

He shall be responsible in test equipment programs, validation and verification, upgrade and/or repair. He shall closely work with other engineers and other divisions for process and quality improvements. Other responsibilities include asset utilization and participation on quality improvement teams through the use of TQM concepts.

Qualifications:

- BSECE, BSEE or BS Computer Engineering graduate
- At least 2-3 years extensive experience as test, failure analysis, field or design engineer in the semiconductor industry.
- Experience in Hardware / Software validation and verification for medium or high-end testers.
- Knowledgeable with unix, solaris, windows based application and knowledge in C++ programming.
- Good verbal and written communication skills



We shall only accommodate candidates with specific qualifications and skills requirements as stated above.
Previous applicants need not apply.

The Successful candidate will receive a competitive compensation and benefits package within the Semiconductor and electronics industry and has the opportunity to work in a technology driven company like TERADYNE. THIS IS AN URGENT REQUIREMENT. Please send your **application letter** together with your **resume** and **1x1 ID picture not later than 27 June 2003** to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER
Mactan Export Processing Zone II
Basak, Lapu-Lapu City
Cebu, Philippines 6015
Or email to: **Cebuhr@teradyne.com**

A PROGRESSIVE TELECOM CONTRACTOR CO.

NEEDS the FOLLOWING

1. **Project Director – salary of P50,000.00 / month plus bonus**

   Qualifications
   - Licensed Civil Engineer
   - With 5 years experience in project management, supervision, monitoring control
   - Preferably with experience in Tower Installation
   - With pleasing personality, good leadership and can effectively deal with people
2. **Project Managers – salary of P30,000.00 / month plus bonus and a company service vehicle**

   Qualifications
   - Licensed Civil or Electrical Engineer
   - At least with five (5) years experience in project management, supervision and monitoring control
   - Preferably with experience in Tower Installation
3. **Civil or Electrical Engineers – salary of P15,000.00 / month plus bonus**

   Qualifications
   - With Bachelors degree in Engineering
   - With 2 years experience in project management, supervision and monitoring
   - With pleasing personality and can communicate well
4. **Project Liaison Officers – salary of P10,000.00 / month plus bonus**

   Qualifications
   - Female
   - Single
   - At least 5'1" and not more than 105 pounds
   - At least 2nd year college
   - With pleasing personality and can communicate well

* Note: All applicants must be computer literate

Please send your Bio-Data / Resumé at:

P.O. BOX NO. 2023 Makati City
1260 Phils.

RAMCAR TECHNOLOGY INC.

URGENTLY NEEDS THE FOLLOWING:

EDM OPERATORS

- Male, 22-26 years old, graduate of Mechanical Technology
- With basic knowledge in EDM operation and able to interpret mechanical blueprint drawings
- Highly computer literate and flexible

MACHINE ASSEMBLERS/ MOLDMAKERS

- Male, 22-35 years old; Vocational/Trade School graduate
- Must be knowledgeable on milling and can read technical plans and drawings
- Computer literate

SHEET METAL FABRICATORS/ TIG WELDERS

- Male, 20-35 years old; Vocational/Trade School graduate
- Must be well experienced on TIG welding
- Preferably with previous experience in metal fabrication and assembly

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO APPLY PERSONALLY WITH THEIR RESUMÉ & I.D. PICTURE TO:

THE CORPORATE RECRUITMENT SECTION (BATTERY)
Ramcar Center, 80-82 Roces Avenue,
Diliman, Quezon City

**Previous Applicants NEED NOT apply.*

Leap Ahead.

If your Organization...

- Has been operational for more than one fiscal year
- Currently has at least 25 active consultants
- Has an established client base of managers, professionals, and entrepreneurs
- Has an existing and measurable portfolio of successful projects
- Is a Visionary in the Finance Industry
- Is keen on becoming a **Business Partner** of the **Bank of Choice**

Then...

- ✓ Prepare your business documents (DTI/SEC, Mayor's Permit, Company Profile, etc.*) and send to the mailing address below.

* For organizations with existing partnerships with other institutions, you may submit your business contract in lieu of the SEC/DTI & Mayor's Permit.

Join the Leaders.

If You...

- Have been an Active Consultant for more than one fiscal year
- Have an established client base of managers, professionals, and entrepreneurs
- Have an existing and measurable portfolio of successful projects
- Are a Visionary in the Finance Industry
- Would like to build your own company and develop to become a **Business Partner** of the **Bank of Choice**

Then...

- ✓ Prepare your credentials (Resume, Accounts Portfolio, etc.*) and send to the mailing address below.

Be a Leader.

Mailing Address:
Makati City P.O. Box 2118 **Attention: PLD**
(Documents must be received on or before June 30, 2003)

Make It Happen.

JOIN OUR EXPANDING GROUP OF COMPANIES,
WE ARE SEEKING TOP CALIBER CANDIDATES
TO FILL IN THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

PAYROLL ASSISTANTS

- Must be graduate of BS Accountancy at least 25 years old
- He/She must have 3 years related work experience
- He/She must have good communication skills and must be computer literate
- He/She must have experience in the preparation of government reports: BIR, SSS, Pag-Ibig and Philhealth

CHINESE TRANSLATORS

- He/She must be nationals from the People's Republic of China
- He/She will be responsible for the translation of different documents and transactions of the Company from English to Chinese and vice-versa
- College graduates with Bachelor's degree are preferred.

Due to the urgency of the positions, all qualified applicants may send their Resumé with 2x2 picture and Transcript of Records to:

The Human Resources Division
2/F Triumph Building, 1610 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City
E-mail: **abitdc@hotmail.com**

Our Philippines office in Quezon City
has a vacancy for:

SALES MANAGER

(Water Treatment Chemicals)

- ■ Experience with Water Treatment Chemicals
- ■ Salary ranges from P15,000 - 40,000, commensurate with qualification and experience
- ■ Possess Car

Please write in with your resumé, academic records, testimonials from previous employers, photo and contact details and CURRENT & EXPECTED salaries to:

HR Manager
Jurong Point Post Office
P.O. Box 914
Singapore 916499
Republic of Singapore
Or e-mail to: **HR.Dept@gmx.net**
Note: The successful applicant will work in the Philippines

Schutter Philippines, Inc., an international logistics company is in need of:

JUNIOR ACCOUNTANT

- Preferably a Certified Public Accountant
- Minimum 3 years work experience
- With good communication skills
- Computer literate

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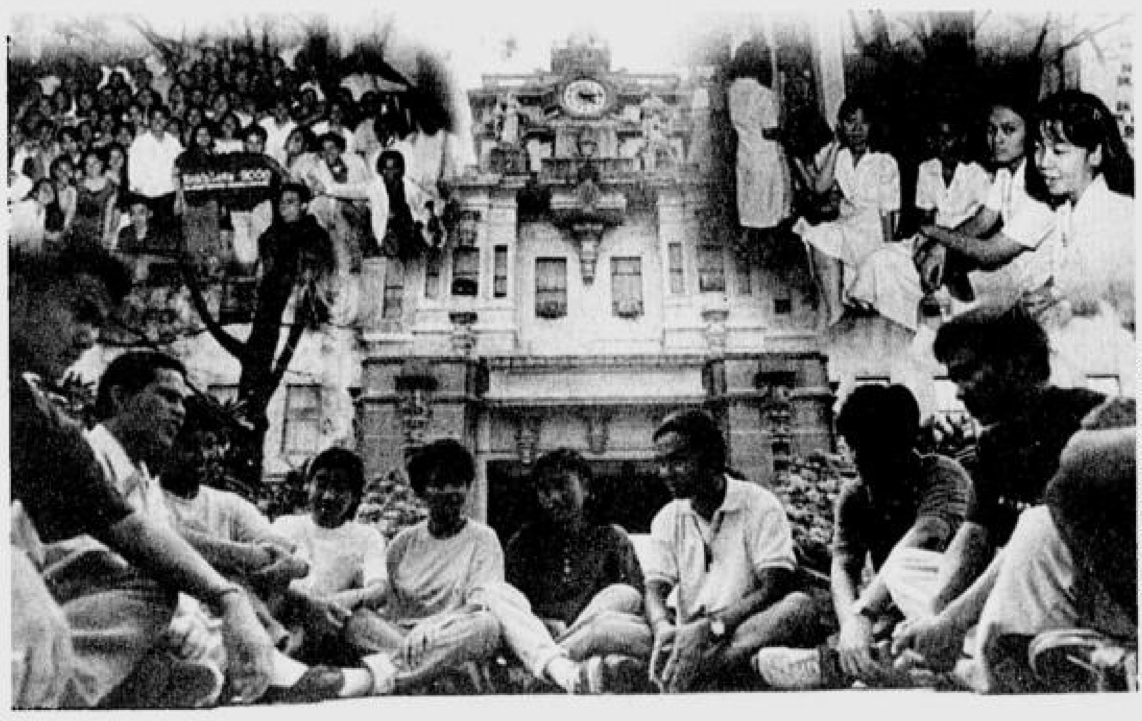
Sunday PEOPLE at WORK

Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

PAW PULSE

Working students pursue education for a better future


GRAPHICS BY STEPHANIE BRAVO

By Edna P. Franco and Yvette S. Wells
Ateneo Center for Organization Research and Development

MANY people believe that education is the stepping-stone to a better future for the individual and the members of his/her family. Thus, families strive hard to send their children to school. However, not all students are blessed with the good fortune of having parents to shoulder their schooling expenses. There are many who have to fend for themselves and earn money to foot their schooling bills. They are what we call the "working students."

Working students are considered a breed apart from the usual student or the office employee. People often see something noble in a person's efforts to support one's self through school. There are many inspiring articles about successful executives who, in their early careers, provided for the daily needs of their families, as well as subsidized the cost of their own education. Indeed, there are many success stories of individuals who have crossed the barriers of their economic class because their perseverance to complete a college education earned them the opportunity to compete for a good job.

Survey results

In the current study, a total of 85 readers responded to the survey on "Are you a working student?" Thirteen (15.3 percent) responses were sent by regular post, 15 (17.6 percent) via email, 27 (31.8 percent) by fax, and 30 (35.3 percent) through text messages. Our respondents are composed of 53 (62.4 percent) females and 32 (37.6 percent) males.

Almost 90 percent of total respondents worked during their college years, including the three respondents who worked while pursuing their postgraduate studies. It is a more common occurrence to have working students in the collegiate level than in the primary and secondary levels, although there are cases for the latter as well. It is quite encouraging to note that of those who supported themselves through school by working part-time or full-time, 86.8 percent of total respondents were able to finish their studies, with almost half, saying they even graduated on time.

Balancing school, work

As reported, the most difficult challenge to being a working student was balancing school and work requirements (37.2 percent). Other challenges were physical exhaustion and lack of sleep at 38.9 percent. It is not surprising that only a few complained about a lack of social life (7.1 percent) suggesting that the underlying motivation to pursue further studies may weigh heavier than the temporary lack of social interactions the working student may have. Some 16.8 percent of the respondents cited the need to sustain one's motivation to study as an important factor.

What advantages did individuals experience in being working students? Surprisingly, more than the financial benefits, 40 percent of the respondents said that the primary gain from working was the development of personality or maturity. Thirty-five per cent mentioned that income from work helped meet their expenses. In line with the development of a well-rounded individual, 21 percent also mentioned that work helped to hone skills not developed at school. A small number (4 percent) stated that their offices allowed them access to more resources.

Given a choice, more than half (58.8%) of the respondents recommend the pursuit of education while working at the college level. One respondent asserted that this decision must be anchored on two factors, namely, the financial ability of the parents to support the children's education, and the level of maturity of the individual.

Based on the results, it is safe to say that although there are several advantages gained from the experiences of working students, it is not a situation that is recommended for everyone. As one respondent succinctly put it, the decision to study while working, is not based solely on financial concerns but, more importantly, on the stage of development or maturity of the individual.

Society, in general, puts a premium on education and considers those who complete their degrees as having achieved something. Thus, those who are able to do this on top of responsibilities at work (an experience that respondents say has not been easy) can be considered outstanding achievers in their own right.

(Send feedback to ateneocord@admu.edu.ph*)*

What's inside

Working Wounded *J-12*

Commonplace listening tips ... J-10

Biases hinder friendship at work

By Tita Datu Puangco

Advice FOR THE ANXIOUS PERSON AT WORK

I AM 22 years old. I have been working in a call center for three months now. I work beside another new employee of my age, who is friendly and approachable. Recently, she disclosed to me that she was a Muslim. She also related her struggle to study and how she feels fulfilled that she got the job in the call center. However, I have a problem with myself. I am a Christian. My parents who are originally from Cotabato had shared with me negative experiences about Muslims. They tell me to be careful. They also suggest if I can find other friends, not to stay close to her. Are my parents right? Please give me advice.

New Employee

You are now of age to discover and discern for yourself what is right and wrong. In my view, it is time to examine the biases you got from your parents. As an adult, you can think for yourself and decide whether you want to drop or continue with your parents' biases. As there are unfortunate incidents and experiences with Muslims, there are also unfortunate incidents you may encounter with other people, and they may be Christians, Hindus and Buddhists. What is important as a Christian is to know that we are all brothers and sisters of one God, no matter your religion, color or race. This openness to diversity is very critical in this age of globalization.

For me, your chance to have a Muslim for a friend is a great privilege, an opportunity to open wider your world. Usually, we deal with people who are like ourselves, we desire to be in our comfort zone. In this zone, there is little challenge and space for growth. As we know, things that really matter in life are solid friendships and relationships. And to build them, one needs to take risks.

Muslim friends

Let me relate my wonderful encounters with Muslim brothers and sisters. When I was studying at AIM for my graduate studies, I had a Muslim roommate. She edified me with her prayer life. She cared for other Muslims, especially the foreign students, spending time and money to bring them to the mosque in Quiapo. With her, I learned how to be a better Christian. We had a respectful dialogue on religion, politics and the future of the country. What impressed me most is her strong nationalism and recognition of being Filipino. It was also the period of the Kuwait - Iraq war. Together we agreed to pray for peace. After the semester was over, she had to go back to Mindanao. I realize the time spent with her was truly precious. She made me understand that the situation in Mindanao is not hopeless—there are many peace advocates, both individuals and institutions who work and long for lasting peace in Mindanao.

I also worked on a consultancy engagement in Malaysia. The lady on top of human resources was a devout Muslim. She was well educated. She knew how to balance the interests of management and employees. We kept writing each other letters, till she got married and decided to settle in the US. We had such a strong bond, that I could not think during that period of going to Malaysia without seeing her. Then, another Muslim friend asked me to sit in her thesis defense at the Ateneo Graduate School. She impressed me with her grace, her competence and her intelligence. Honestly, if I did not have these friends, my life would be poorer.

DIONISIO BUCCAT III

Same aspirations

Now, life is not a utopia. I am sure that in my lifetime, I may meet Muslims who are different, who will disappoint. But this thought should not prevent me from taking risks. It should instead move me forward. I am saddened when I think of the war going on in Mindanao. If each one of us will reach out to our Muslim brothers and sisters, Filipinos like us, then we can start to solve the problem.

BIASES/J-10

'Ako rin, adik!'

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

IT would be fun to conduct a mini-survey in your workplace—find out what your coworkers can't do without before starting their working day. You may hear someone say "Coffee wakes me up!" while a chain smoker may swear "Gotta have a stick before I even wash my face." The stock clerk sitting next to you might confess he uses the TV set as an alarm clock to start the day watching the news. And the cashier might admit that she takes at least half an hour texting before beginning her day. They simply can't function in top form without satisfying those cravings first thing in the morning. Addicts all!

Guess what? *Ako rin, adik*! Yeah...to the Eucharist. Corny *ba*? Never mind, as long as it's true! (Wink!) I'm neither a *manang* nor a nun but my early morning fix consists of the homily and the host. Not for any pious reason but for the fact that union with the divine so early in the day puts me in touch with my center, and gives me the confidence that my actions, thoughts and decisions for the rest of the day will be stemming from such a union. In a mysterious way my "addiction" helps me to become less impatient in handling slowpokes; less critical of "oddballs" and insensitive colleagues; more adept at facing wheeler-dealers; less anxious about rewards, recognition, etc.

What happens if I don't get my fix? No problem! That's the wonderful thing about this addiction: it doesn't enslave you; in fact, it frees you from all slavery!

(Email the author at avemaria@csi.com.ph*)*

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

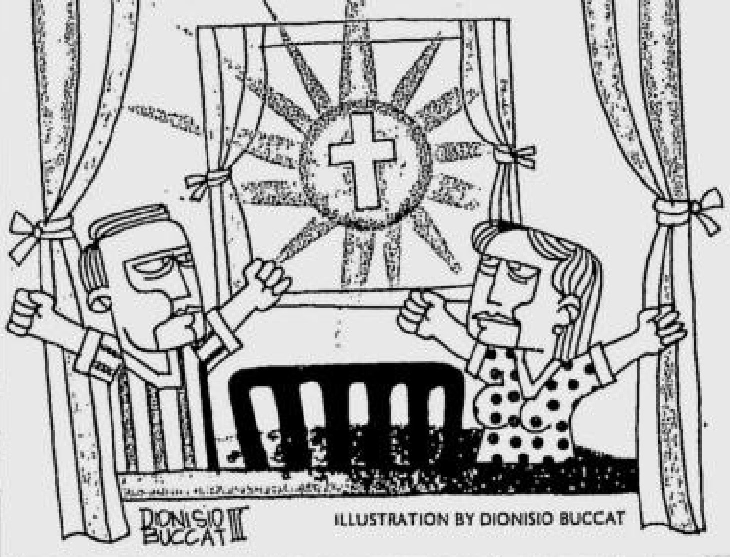


ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Gospel Mk 14: 12-26

While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, and said, "Take it; this is my body...This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many..."

Jesus, the Bread

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB,DD

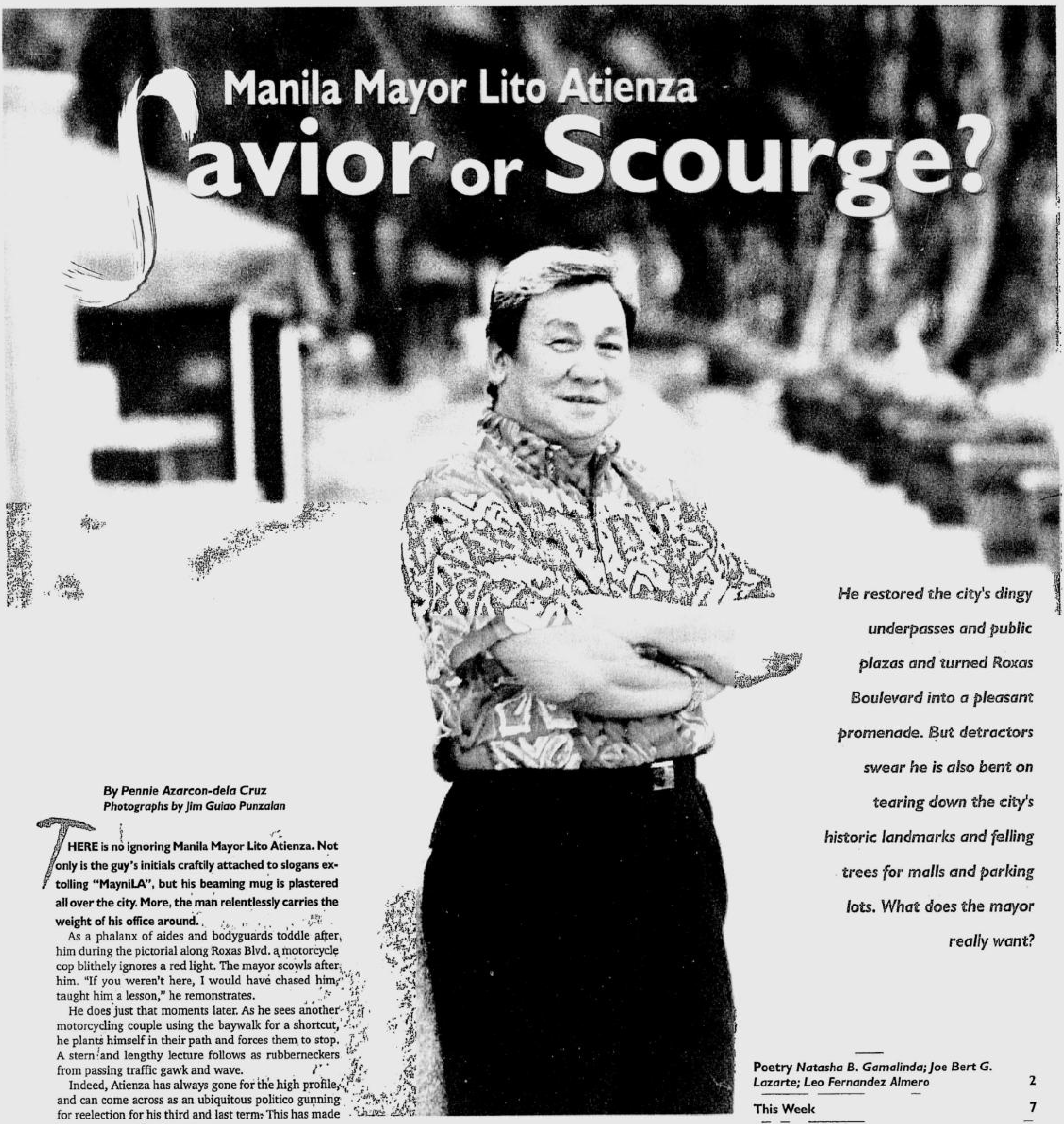
WORK for most of us is the source of our 'daily bread'—money to buy the various needs of our daily subsistence. We work hard to earn more money to buy what we need and then, again work harder to buy what we want. Yet we can't be satisfied; we hunger for more than the bread we earn by our work; we long for the bread, which gives us greater satisfaction—the bread which Jesus tells us to take, His Body. Can we partake of the Body of Christ in our workplace?

Some companies and offices request for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, the Body of Christ, in the plant, usually on important occasions. I have celebrated the Eucharist several times in the work place and I have seen that a good number of workers enthusiastically participate in the Mass and receive the Body of Christ. Management does well in integrating the celebration of the Sacrament of the Eucharist in the work schedule, giving the workers time to unite themselves spiritually with Jesus who gives them greater sense of peace, security and strength to work on.

Partaking of the Body of Christ in the workplace does not only mean taking communion at mass; it also means sharing in the sufferings of Jesus while we work. When we feel our bodies aching as we finish an urgent job; when we think our egos are crushed by the demands of our unreasonable boss; when we experience a lack of zest in life due to fatigue and boredom of the work, we unite ourselves with the death of Jesus. Our work, the source of our daily bread, is transformed into the Body of Christ, the Bread, and becomes a veritable food for our salvation!

(Email the author at mfvg@skyinet.net*)*

sunday INQUIRER
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
June 22, 2003



Manila Mayor Lito Atienza

Savior or Scourge?

He restored the city's dingy underpasses and public plazas and turned Roxas Boulevard into a pleasant promenade. But detractors swear he is also bent on tearing down the city's historic landmarks and felling trees for malls and parking lots. What does the mayor really want?

By Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz
Photographs by Jim Guiao Punzalan

THERE is no ignoring Manila Mayor Lito Atienza. Not only is the guy's initials craftily attached to slogans extolling "MayniLA", but his beaming mug is plastered all over the city. More, the man relentlessly carries the weight of his office around.

As a phalanx of aides and bodyguards toddle after him during the pictorial along Roxas Blvd. a motorcycle cop blithely ignores a red light. The mayor scowls after him. "If you weren't here, I would have chased him, taught him a lesson," he remonstrates.

He does just that moments later. As he sees another motorcycling couple using the baywalk for a shortcut, he plants himself in their path and forces them to stop. A stern and lengthy lecture follows as rubberneckers from passing traffic gawk and wave.

Indeed, Atienza has always gone for the high profile, and can come across as an ubiquitous politico gunning for reelection for his third and last term. This has made him easy target for detractors.

Some years back, conservationists scorned him for demolishing the Jai Alai building, a historic landmark, they claim, to make way for court offices that never materialized. Recently, his office played tug-of-war with the environmentalist group Winner Foundation over Arroceros Park, which the group had been mandated to turn into a forested area but which the mayor said he had already promised to public school teachers.

Even his latest project, the popular baywalk along the boulevard with its park benches, food stalls and string of lights, has not escaped sniping from some quarters. What's with the columns and the space orbs for lights, they ask. Why all these concrete structures? What about history? Why turn the Distinguished and Ever Loyal City into a second-rate concrete jungle?

Atienza remains unfazed, and tackles the criticisms point by point.

The lot where the old Jai Alai stood was donated to the city by then President Joseph Estrada, he points out, when the former movie actor discovered that Manila has no decent Hall of Justice. "We tried to accommodate the old structure, even just the façade, but the architect couldn't make a go of it. We had no choice but to demolish." Besides, adds Atienza, an architect himself, a building's character should reflect its use. *"Paano pag natalo ka sa korte, sasabihin kasi isinugal yung kaso* (If you lose your court case, people might say it was a big gamble anyway)," he says, referring to the Jai Alai's glory days. With Estrada gone and a new administration in place, the project was shelved. "It's now out of my hands," he shrugs.

As for the Arroceros park, the land, the mayor says, belongs to the Department of Education and was donated for the teachers' use. "I'm not averse to having a spot of green in the city, but with Manila's limited area, we have to maximize land use," Atienza adds. Having a forest in the middle of the city is sheer luxury, he says, and might even attract criminals who could use the thick vegetation as hiding place. Why not use part of the land for the teachers and a portion for a botanical garden that's open to the public so that students can learn something in the process, he says of the two-hectare disputed property.

While the battle over the park had been acrimonious—reportedly with threats of violence from what appeared to be hired goons and thugs—Atienza says he is keeping his doors open to the Winner group. "I like working with committed and idealistic people as these women obviously are, but we must work together."

The baywalk may have generated mixed reviews as well, but Atienza rightly points to it as his flagship project, the apex of previous efforts to refurbish Manila starting in 1998, when Plaza Miranda gained a Grecian character with its row of columns. Since then, the mayor has given Manila a

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BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Mayor

...from page 1

serious facelift, cleaning up the dingy and crime-infested Lacson underpass and other city landmarks, among them Plaza Moriones in Tondo, Plaza Dilao in Paco and Liwasang Bonifacio near downtown.

"Beautification inspires people to be more confident of themselves," he says. "They realize that life can be better and that gives them renewed confidence in our common future. They become more demanding of their quality of life."

Roxas Blvd., adds Atienza, "is the face of Manila, and Manila is the Philippines. Filipinos abroad trace their roots to Manila. Ask them where they're from and they always say, *taga*-Maynila, even if they come from Rizal, Antipolo or even Samar!"

After ridding the boulevard of some 200 squatter families who have turned it into a *"palikurang bayan"* (public toilet), the mayor turned the area into a pleasant promenade "at a cost of P50 million so far," mainly from the mayor's development funds, PAGCOR and other discretionary funds. "It's the effect that counts and it's been worth every cent," he says.

A longtime San Andres resident who traces his Manila roots to his grandfather, Atienza harks back to the days when growing up in the ever-loyal city meant "walking to school at Ateneo, Padre Faura, slurping mami at Ma Mon Luk in Avenida, swimming in Manila Bay after school, and hanging out at MY San and Botica Boie coffee shops in Escolta."

He may not be able to bring back those halcyon days, but Atienza believes that urban renewal is the way to go.

Looking out to "a common future": Atienza at the baywalk with the statue of '60s Manila Mayor Arsenio Lacson

"Development is contagious," he says, adding that Quezon City Mayor Sonny Belmonte wants to meet with him to discuss similar beautification efforts at the Quezon Memorial Circle.

But the mayor bristles when it was suggested that he probably got infected by Metro Manila Development Authority chair Bayani Fernando, who shares his pugnacious views on initiating reforms in the city. His role models, Atienza says, are Singapore's former premier Lee Kuan Yew and erstwhile New York Mayor Rudolf Giuliani, two men known for their iron fists. His high regard for the two leaders is, however, at odds with what he considers his worst memory of Manila—martial law under former President Marcos. "But Giuliani worked within the democratic space of New York while Lee transgressed human rights because of the system in Singapore," explains Atienza of the seeming contradiction.

The mayor's political mentors were closer to home. His grandfather was a ward leader in Malate, an uncle was appointed mayor after the war by Gen. Douglas MacArthur, and his father was president of the Liberal Party and a ward leader under President Diosdado Macapagal.

Atienza himself got an early start as barangay captain in San Andres for 10 years, and as information officer at Manila City Hall. He quit in '83 and ran as assemblyman in '84 under the opposition party Unido-Laban. His political fortunes soared when after Edsa 1, he was appointed general manager of the National Housing Authority by then President Aquino. After losing his 1988 mayoralty bid to rival Mel Lopez, he went on to become vice mayor to Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim in 1992. He handily won the top city post in 1998 and again in 2001.

Part of his political savvy Atienza traces to his college days when it took him eight years to finish his architecture course because he was a Bayanihan dancer on the side. That's how he got to rub elbows with ambassadors, diplomats and Cabinet officials whenever the cultural troupe performed at Malacañang, he says with a laugh.

It was also as a Bayanihan clapper that he got to meet his future wife, recalls the 62-year-old mayor. "I was in love with her dexterity," he says of Ma. Evelina. Now married for 35 years, the couple has six children, among them Manila councilor Kim Atienza. "We would have welcomed 12 children," says the elder Atienza, who wears his Catholic views on his sleeve and rabidly disapproves of any form of contraception. The city's health centers do not provide family planning services, he says, and "they can haul me to court for that if they want to," he shoots back at groups who have questioned his stand as violating the constitutional guarantee of separation of Church and state.

It's not just a personal position, he says of his anti-contraception views. "It is the correct position. It's a matter of principles," he says heatedly. "Many of our problems are rooted in this lack of valuing of life, this light, casual treatment of sex where it's trivialized, like it's the most casual thing to be enjoyed."

He gets almost as passionate talking about his grand plan for Manila. "Urban renewal starts with public areas and institutions. It is helped along by massive street lighting which is crucial for crime prevention. Did you know that Manila used to be top in criminality but now we're only number 4 out of 17 cities?"

No stranger to controversy, Atienza boldly lays out his plans and strategies to address perennial city ills—from floods, traffic and garbage to pollution and lack of housing—among them the use of incinerators to dispose of the tons of garbage generated by Manila's four million residents and transient workers. "Despite recycling, there's still something left at the end of the day and the only way to deal with that is by burning it. I say, we use all possible techniques plus an incinerator while we're looking for a permanent solution to the waste disposal crisis."

But can Manila, a congested city with a density of 55,000 people per square kilometer, be saved? "All it takes is a leader with a vision who will set the direction. After that, *tuloy-tuloy na,*" says Atienza, who cites revolutionary hero Andres Bonifacio and former Mayor Arsenio Lacson as the Manileños he most admires.

Whether Manilans see Atienza in the role of city savior building up a spanking metropolis from blight, or a scourge tearing down the city's historic character, is something that only the 2004 polls can determine.

Dancing his way to politics: The mayor [illegible]

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Editor in Chief	**Alya B. Honasan**
Managing Editor	**Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz**
Associate Editor	**Ruel S. De Vera**
Staff Writer	**Eric S. Caruncho**
Graphic Designer	**Chuchie Quevedo-See**
Design Consultant	**Lynett A. Villariba**
Editorial Assistant	**Sharon M. Felipe**
Advertising & Sales Manager	**Kenny Nuyda**

THE Sunday INQUIRER MAGAZINE holds office at Chino Roces Ave. (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City, with telephone number 897-8808 locals 317 and 318. Mailing address: PO Box 2050, 1099 Manila, Philippines. E-mail: sim@inquirer.com.ph. For press releases, send e-mail to pr_sim@inquirer.com.ph.

SANTA HELENA SIGLO DE ORO. The Peninsula Manila's wine of the month for June. This smooth and elegant wine of medium body with its aroma of ripe red fruits, spices and hints of vanilla leaves a good final persistence. *For more of This Week, see page 7*

Creaming Strawberries

I.
Call this "getting over,"
slicing three kilos of red
little tongues or what's left of it
still firm for two weeks
inside the freezer, cadavers
keeping tiny thorns of what-
have-you-done's in a click seal
plastic container, until someone
screamed out utter disgust
over molds growing white
like an old man's beard
over red upper lip,
something sort of
an unwanted kiss--

Wash, they beg of you,
as if old age can still be rid off
under running water, throw away
the swollen portions. Sometimes
you let fall whole berries because
they're rotten, no use eating them,
mold growth upsets the stomach.

About half the lot, as you calculated,
survive. You dice them, let the juice
spurt out of their thorned coating,
let the squashed meat slide
from white chopping board
to newly washed bowl.
Dump in heaps of sugar and empty
into the sweating congregation
three packs of all-purpose-cream.

Stir and let them freeze
in time for dinner later.

II.
Later, you light the candles
in full ceremony, grab
five cups and teaspoons
enough for the whole family,
cross your fingers hoping
that the mixture has not
browned from lack of oxygen,
that the tongues have not lost their lives
entirely, that they will not squeal
as you take the bowl out of the freezer,
that mother will not find out it took
two weeks to make this, two weeks
to finally dice out memory.

Bowl is on the table and all is quiet
save for the scraping of silver teaspoons
scooping out cream and sugar
and whatever else you can remember
you put in there.

Everything seems fine until
father's mouth gapes open,
mother is crying over a dead child,
your brother has a bread knife
cutting your neck and you hear voices
as soon as you swallow the lump
of little tongues melting on your own,

you hear tongues laughing.

The only one who can
step away from the table
is your six-year-old brother
who will finally remember
where he last put his missing toy truck.

Natasha B. Gamalinda

Poetry

Waiting for the Climax

Usually, it arrives late: the epiphany
Just after I've slain a horde of deadwood, met
A dozen dead ends
And nibbled the noon dust, it comes
Fashionably late and hopelessly futile.
Its face the insipid face
Of my defeat.

Often it kisses me
But only after I've dug deep into the mire
And traded my soul with the pebbles
I now toy with my hand and mind.
I am all mouth, all fingers,
All flesh, as it unravels
Unexpectedly
Like some rare oxymoron
Jutting out a bald field of prose.

How can beauty, unfolding, be unjust
And useless? A gift that arrives too late?
A fatal after-thought, a coup-de-grace
Straddling its own casket.

Sometimes, it teases me: salvation
That bears the fate of Sisyphus.
And others:
Van Gogh, Plath, Nietszche, Christ—
Pawns to the reckoning that came too late

Joe Bert G. Lazarte

Ilang Aral sa Dahon

1. Ukol sa panahon
Tuwing tag-ulan, naluluha
sa tuwa itong dahong
namimilipit sa lupit ng tag-init

2. Ukol sa paruparo
Uod na nakatiis ng gutom,
may bahay-bihisan
na nakakuyom.

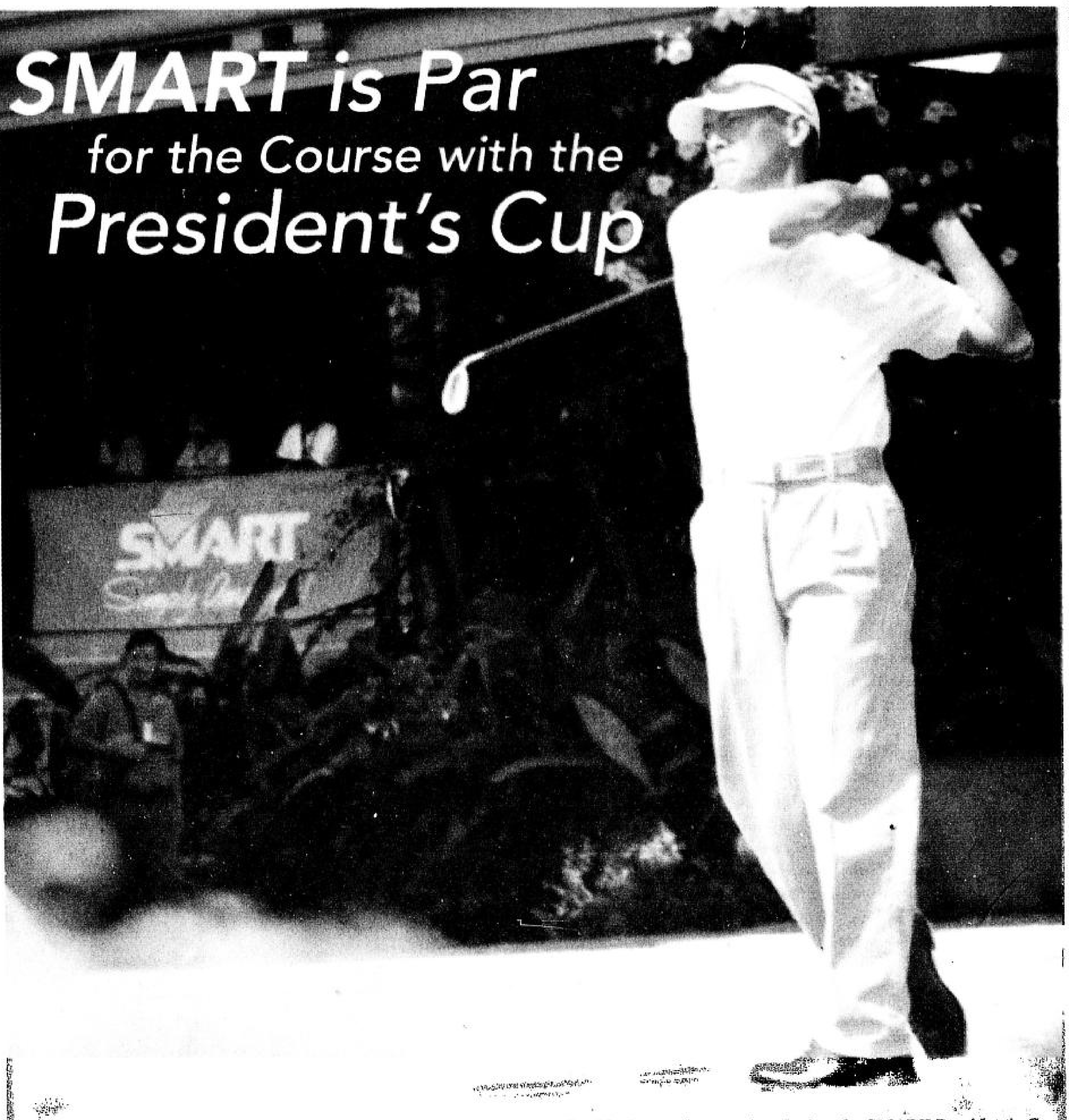
3. Ukol sa takipsilim
Huling awit ng dahong napahalik
sa lupa: "Yakapin mo ako
at gawin pang biyaya."

4. Ukol sa ambon
Nang malagas ang namilipit na dahon
naghinagpis ang tala: luhang nalikha
halik-biyaya sa lupa.

Leo Fernandez Almero

Erratum: Award-winning photographer Romeo Gacad (SIM, June 15, 2003) was embedded with the US Army's Third Infantry Division, and not the Third Infantry Battalion. SIM regrets the error

SMART is Par for the Course with the President's Cup



TV personality Vic Sotto takes a swing during the SMART President's Cup

As summer prepared to bid a fond farewell to Metro Manila, some of the top executives, VIPs, and prominent personalities in Philippine business came out to play. The occasion was the 2nd SMART President's Cup, a highly anticipated event after last year's resounding success at the Manila Golf Club. The sprawling Sta. Elena Golf Course in Cabuyao, Laguna played gracious host to this year's episode. After a hearty morning repast at the club's veranda, the ceremonials kicked off right by hole number one. Then without further ado, an ear-splitting bang sliced through the peace and tranquility of the clean Laguna air as the shotgun was fired and the SMART President's Cup was underway.

The lush greens and excellent fairways of Sta. Elena served as a healthy respite for these captains of industry, and they fully welcomed the opportunity to engage in the sport they love best, doing their finest Tiger Woods impressions on the course. The affair was labeled the "President's Cup" since only top CEOs and executives were invited to participate. And what an affair it was!

Following close to five hours of booming drives and delicate putts, the participants were welcomed to a hearty feast courtesy of SMART. As SMART President's Cup Tournament Director Emy Arcilla and versatile singer/actress Vina Morales hosted the indoor festivities, SMART grabbed the opportunity to present tokens of gratitude to some very loyal subscribers as well as some fun prizes and surprises to the golfers.

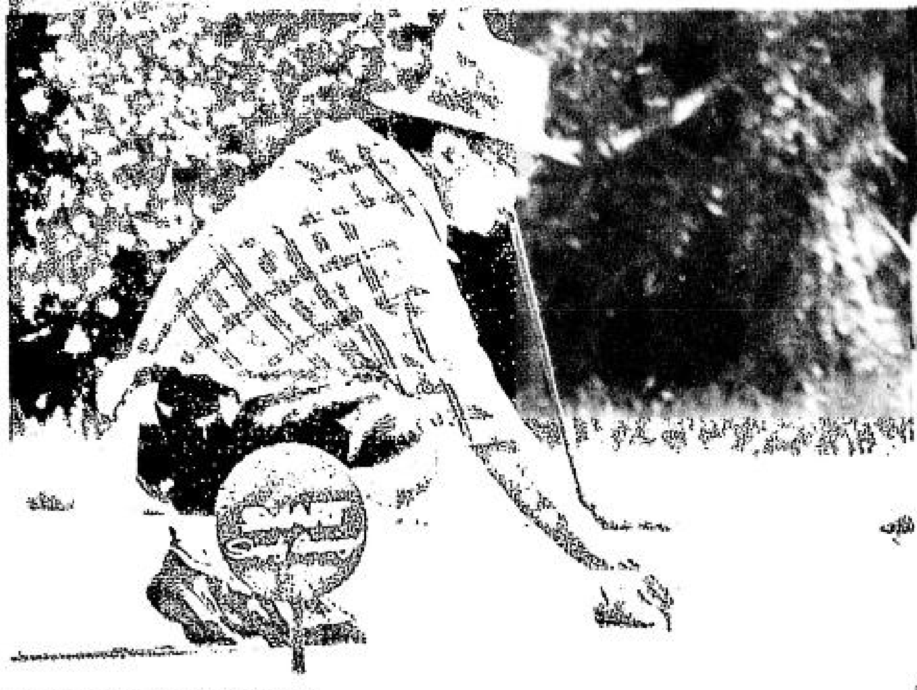
Loyalty awards were presented to Atty. Jose Feria, Jr., and Mr. Edgar Chua, Mr. Fernando Ibazeta, Mr. Jose Luis Gomez, Mr. Ernest Cu, and Mr. Ramon del Rosario were given trophies for having the highest Average Revenue Per User (ARPU). Among the unique and fun prizes that were given away were Nearest to the Pin, Longest Drive in the Flight, Shortest Drive in the Flight, Longest Putt, Shortest Putt. To show that this tournament was more about letting loose and having fun than other regular tourneys, awards were also given for the duffers who ended up "In the Drink" or "In the Bunker".

SMART also acknowledged Mr. Isidro Alcantara, Mr. Jose Mari Cacho, and Mr. Jose Avellana, Jr. for owning the most number of SMART lines to their name. Seafaring giants WG&A, and motoring leader Philtranco were honored for owning the most number of corporate lines. Petron Corporation received the highest accolade for being number one as far as number of corporate lines.

As for the actual golf tournament, Ms. Sandy Prieto of the Philippine Daily Inquirer emerged as champion of the Ladies Division. FedEx Chairman Bert Lina won in Class D, with Jose Avellana, Jr. as Class C Champ. Mike Magpayo was victorious in Class D, and Class A was dominated by Laguna's own Egay San Luis.

Class A Champion Egay San Luis proudly displays his championship trophy

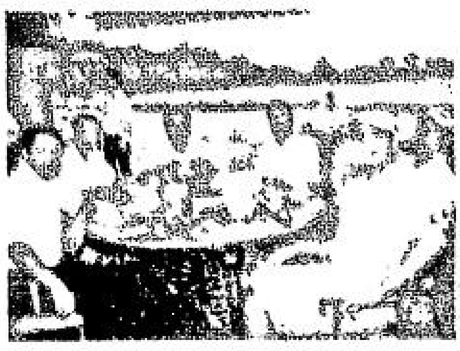
A great time was clearly had by all who participated, guaranteeing at least a third, fourth, and even more SMART President's Cups to follow. With the full effort exerted by the SMART VIP accounts group (as well as the pleasant presence of the SMART models throughout the tourney), a lot of the participants said that this golf tournament was one of the most well-organized and well-attended in recent memory. On this, the tenth year of SMART's existence in the mobile communications landscape, the President's Cup is just one of the fun filled festivities SMART has lined up. Three cheers to SMART for yet another world-class sporting contest!



(Left photo) Signing in before the fun starts

(Right photo) Tournament Director Emy Arcilla welcomes the participants to the Sta. Elena Golf Course

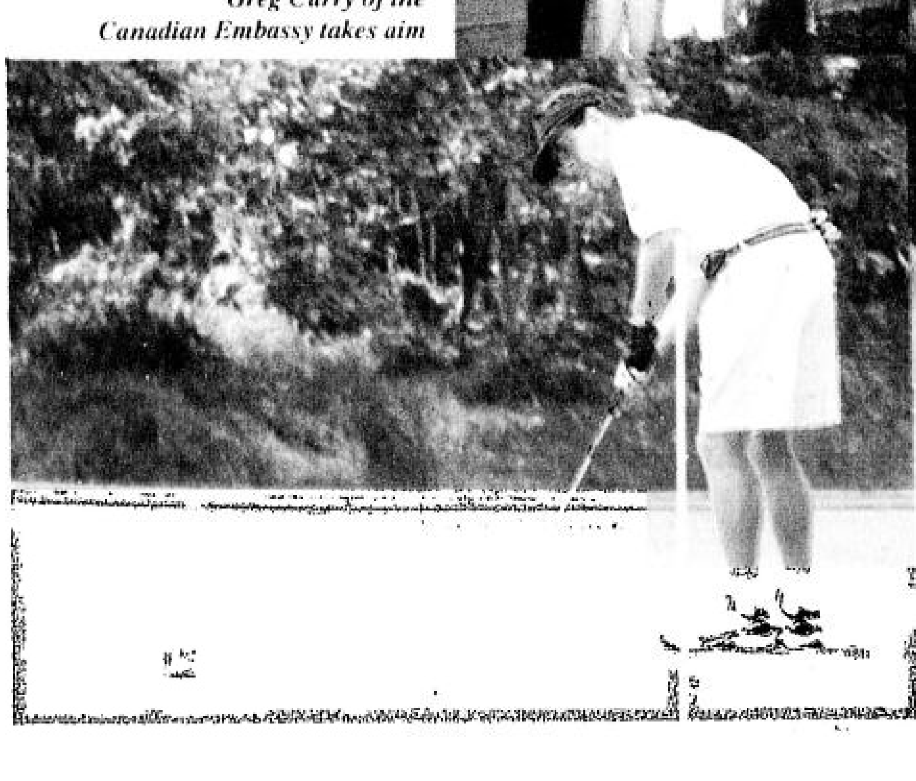
(Above photo) PLDT's Taketo Suzuki gets ready to tee off.



Shean Bedi, Benny Cabrieto, Amado Bagatsing, Ricky Vargas, with Al and Manny Panlilio

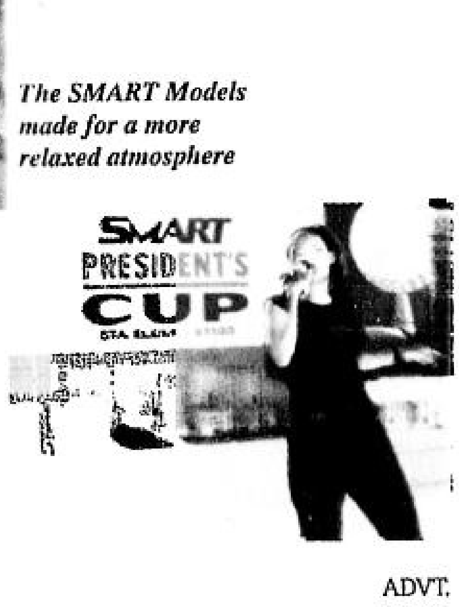
(Right Photo) Maru Sotto, Vic Sotto, Atty. Pong Salud and Ernest Paguia pose for the camera

(Bottom Photo) Greg Curry of the Canadian Embassy takes aim



(Above photo) Is this a gimme?

The SMART Models made for a more relaxed atmosphere



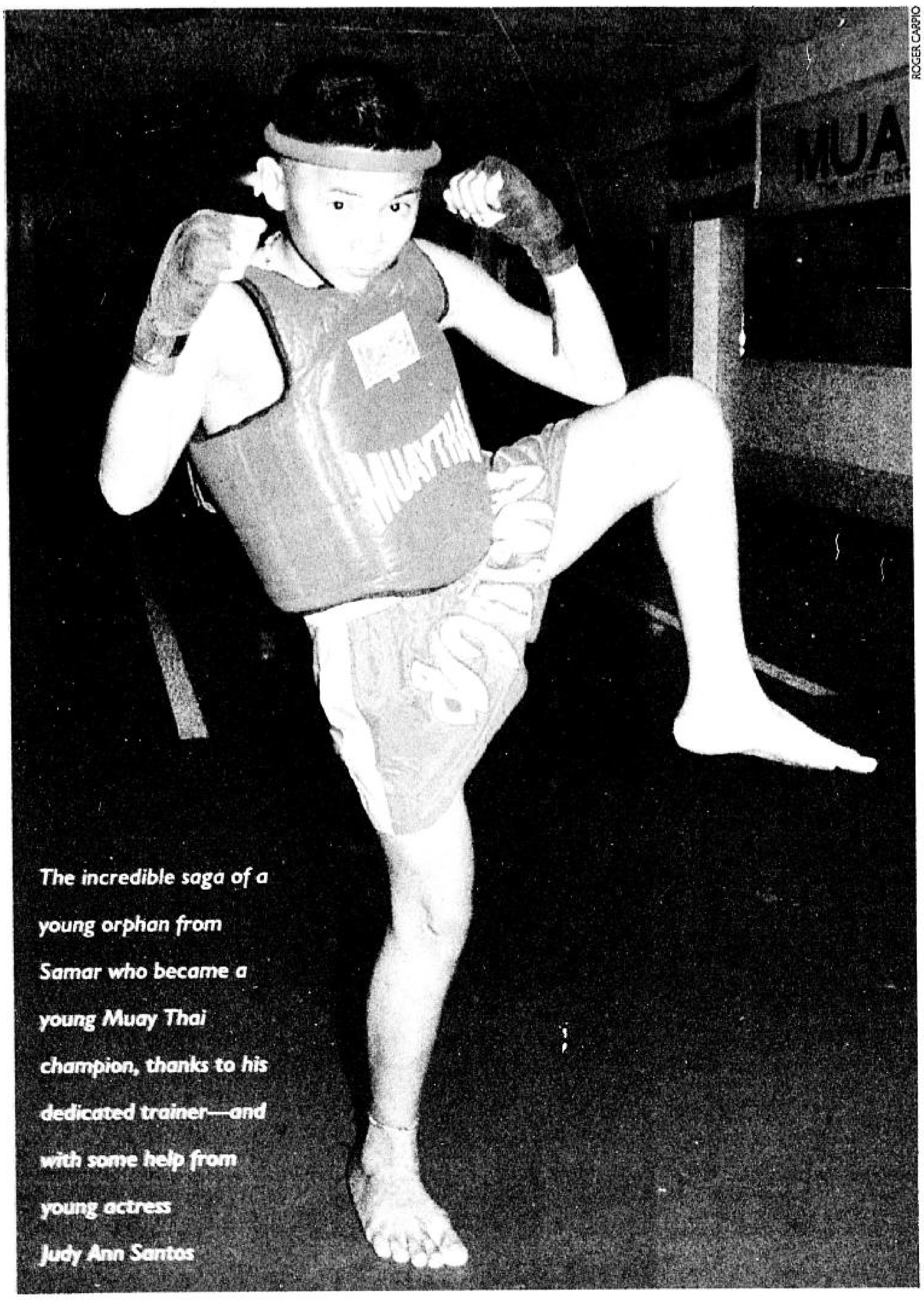
Vina Morales serenades the players after a long day of golf

ADVT.

Survivors' Tales

By Edgar O. Cruz

This Boy's Life



ROGER CARPIO

The incredible saga of a young orphan from Samar who became a young Muay Thai champion, thanks to his dedicated trainer—and with some help from young actress Judy Ann Santos

"WHEN I first started, I immediately got hit on the head! It hurt!" recounts 12-year-old Sakuragi of his first Muay Thai (Thai boxing) competition (Junior Division 42 kgs.), held at the 2,000-capacity Baguio Health Club Gym. Representing the Cordillera Autonomous Region Chapter of the Amateur Muay Thai Association of the Philippines, Sakuragi was disadvantaged; his opponent was older and three inches taller. But Sakuragi's strength as a Muay Thai fighter rested in his brave heart. "Before I entered the ring, I was nervous," he recounts in Filipino. "But once I got inside, I was fine." Half-naked, wearing only loose red shorts and body protectors, Sakuragi recalls thinking to himself, "I think I'm going to lose. Then I thought, I have to get back at him." By the time the match was over, Sakuragi had won for his clean blows and impressive technique. He was declared champion in the Junior Division, taking home a certificate for the win and a cash prize of P1,000.

Sakuragi is not built to be a Muay Thai fighting machine. He's not fast enough, having flat feet. To counter this, his trainer Master Robert Valdez taught him to fight on his toes. And it worked. And to think that Sakuragi's involvement in Muay Thai was half-hearted when Master Robert started him off in the sport. It took a meeting with Judy Ann Santos to turn him around.

One night, the famous young actress was doing Muay Thai, having taken up the sport seriously upon learning from Robin Padilla that it has helped him maintain his ideal weight. It was Master Robert who taught Judy Ann the basics of muaythai. "She was so nice to me," recalls Sakuragi in an animated voice. "I would carry her bag. She liked me, and bought me things—a jacket, T-shirt and vitamins. She told me I should study."

A common love for Thai boxing brought the actress and the boy together

An emotional connection was established between the actress and the boy during their first meeting. Judy Ann, a silent supporter of Elsie Gaches Village and other orphanages, offered to "adopt" him; Sakuragi, feeling for so long like a parentless child, suddenly had a patron. From there, he was inspired to give a hundred percent to his sport, leading to his first big win at his first Muay Thai competition.

Many parts of Sukaragi's past could not be more than a guessing game. By his own account, he's 15. Master Robert thinks he could not be more than 12. There's no way to find out his real age. He holds no birth certificate. And then there's his name. His Japanese-sounding monicker is the title of the favorite animé character of Master Robert's three children. Sakuragi used to be known simply as Boknoy at the Ultra canteen, where he worked as a dishwasher for three months before Master Robert took the boy under his wing.

When he was introduced to Judy Ann at the gym, she suggested calling him Sacho. Since he needed a surname, Master Robert gave him his own. From then on, Boknoy was known as Sakuragi Sacho Valdez. He is all over the Muay Thai gym, always barefoot and wearing only Muay Thai shorts. He could be chatting with the college kids from Ateneo University and Poveda who are learning the sport, sparring with a Muay Thai trainee much taller than him or giving a punching bag yet another beating. Born in Samar, his mother left him in the care of his father when she abandoned them. When he was just a toddler, his father, in turn, left the boy with his own mother.

Sakuragi grew up on the meager money his *Lola* Asyang could raise. Once capable of independent action, he started to frequent a military camp where the soldiers were into boxing. Recognizing his presence, they ask him to box and from there, taught him the basics. They tasked him with caring for the dogs and the fighting cocks, and for this the soldiers contributed money to give him an allowance. Sakuragi, in turn, gave his earnings to his *Lola* Asyang. For a reason not clear to Sakuragi, *Lola* Asyang decided to go to Manila. His story jumps to the time he lived with some soldiers in Camp Capinpin in Tanay, where he was again caretaker of fighting cocks, unable to tell where his *lola* was. She would resurface again in his life when he discovered that she had moved to Marikina, where she worked in a slipper factory. Sakuragi estimates, "She must be a hundred years old." He would eventually work long hours in a *tinapa* factory in the Marikina market. "No *pahinga*. No break, no day off." How did he learn to speak Tagalog then when he was raised a Waray? He admits, "When I arrived here I didn't know how to speak Tagalog and two kids were teasing me. I punched them. They couldn't understand me. I stopped talking much, until I learned."

Master Robert Valdez tightens his young ward's wrappings

One day, due to sheer exhaustion, *Lola* Asyang had a heart attack and died. Sakuragi took it upon himself to bury her. With the help of neighbors, they built her a coffin out of old wood. "I even made a cross." Somebody told the woman concessionaire of the Ultra gym about the orphan, and she took him in as a dishwasher. He turned out to be a good worker. During his free time at the canteen, he would go to the nearby kiosk and serve the Philippine Sports Commission employees, who tipped him generously. It was them who nicknamed him Boknoy.

But Sakuragi is a normal boy in every way, even if he has had to take care of himself. The times he would be missing from his work post, he would be found fishing in the Ultra lagoon, hanging out with the security guards and frequenting the Muay Thai gym. Master Robert, always on the lookout for boys to develop, decided to take him in as a trainee.

But a recent development in Sakuragi's life might change everything we know about him. Recently asked about his real name, he answered matter-of-factly, "Narciso Asibal, Jr." This jolted the usually calm Master Robert, as Sakuragi had not shared this information with him. Asked how he learned about it, the boy explained how a friend led him to his father. Sakuragi went to see him. "He remembered me; he recognized me. He asked me where I came from, and I said, 'Ultra.' He didn't know what Muay Thai was. He told me to take care of my game." It seems the real story of Sakuragi's life has yet to unfold.

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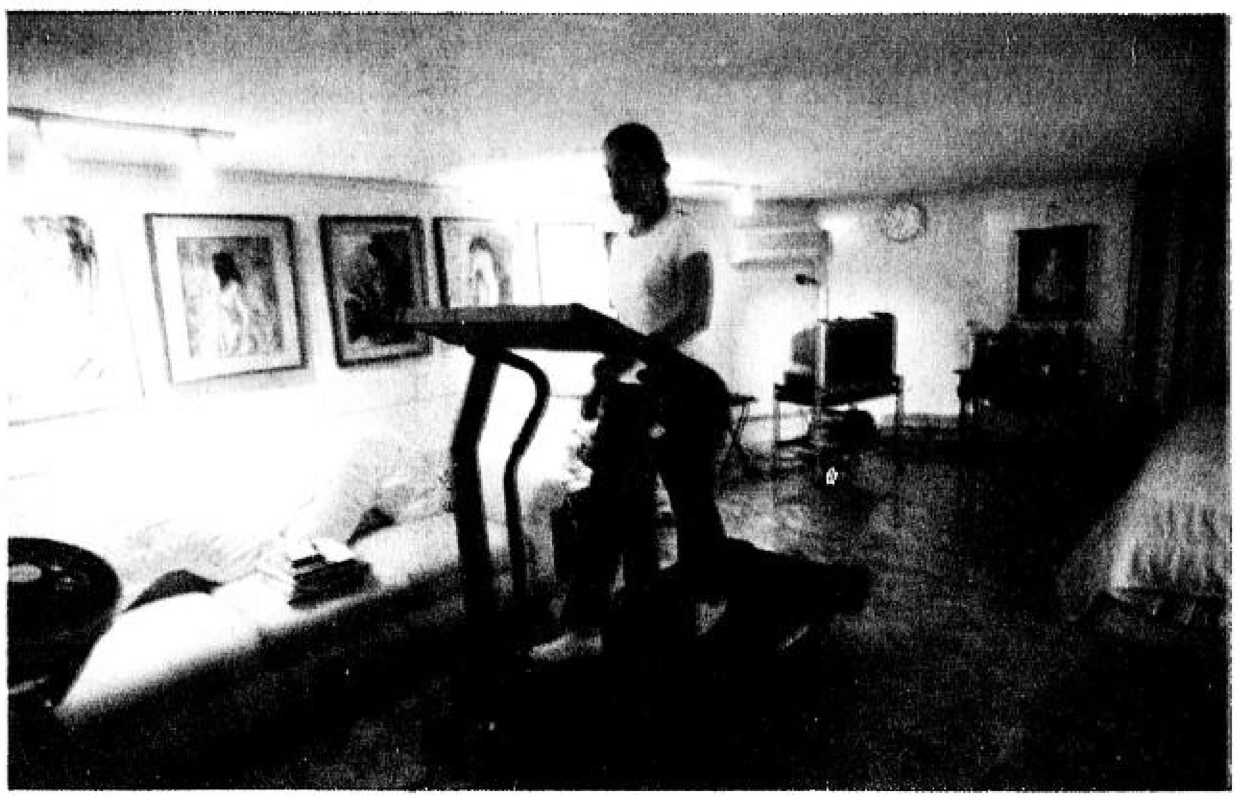
All Access

Text and Photographs by Boy Cabrido

Loren on the Move



6:40 am: The senator begins her day with a session on the treadmill before breakfast

SHE looks so fresh and unruffled in most of her photographs that it's hard to believe Sen. Loren Legarda works 14 -hour days.

A typical day starts at six in the morning when the senator does time on a treadmill in her Makati condo.

After breakfast with her husband Tony Leviste, we make for the rooftop helipad for a 20-minute ride to Pila, Laguna.

As hundreds of schoolchildren and local officials cheer her on, Sen. Legarda hands out milk and launches a tree-planting campaign. By 11, we head back to the Senate where she attends a Foreign Affairs Committee meeting. A late lunch with some women ambassadors follows, and then it's back to the Senate for the afternoon session.

With barely enough time for a breather, the senator whips out her make-up kit and prepares herself for the taping of her TV program, "Loren, *Kabalikat Natin*."

It's almost 8 p.m. when she gets home to a warm welcome from sons Lanz, 11, and Lean, 9. Her day is hardly over. For the next 30 minutes, Sen. Legarda is plain mom to her sons as she leads them in their night prayers. Finally, it's bedtime. "All in a day's work," she says, closing the door.

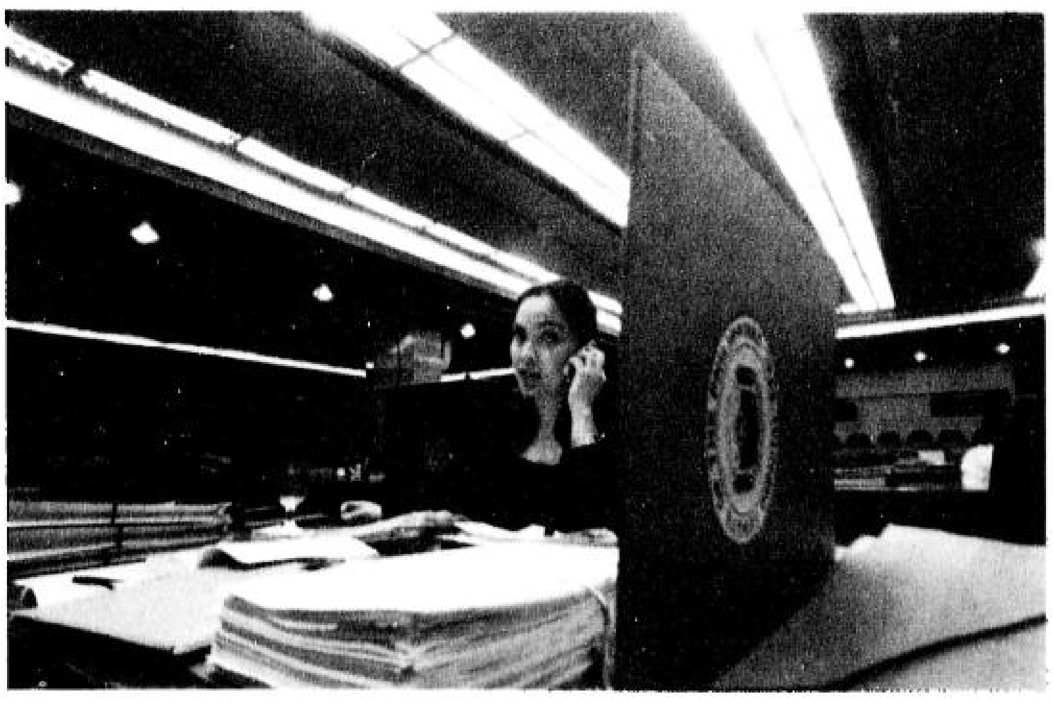
Senator, wife and mother Loren Legarda speeds through an impossibly hectic day

8:30 am: Loren bids goodbye to husband Tony Leviste after breakfast

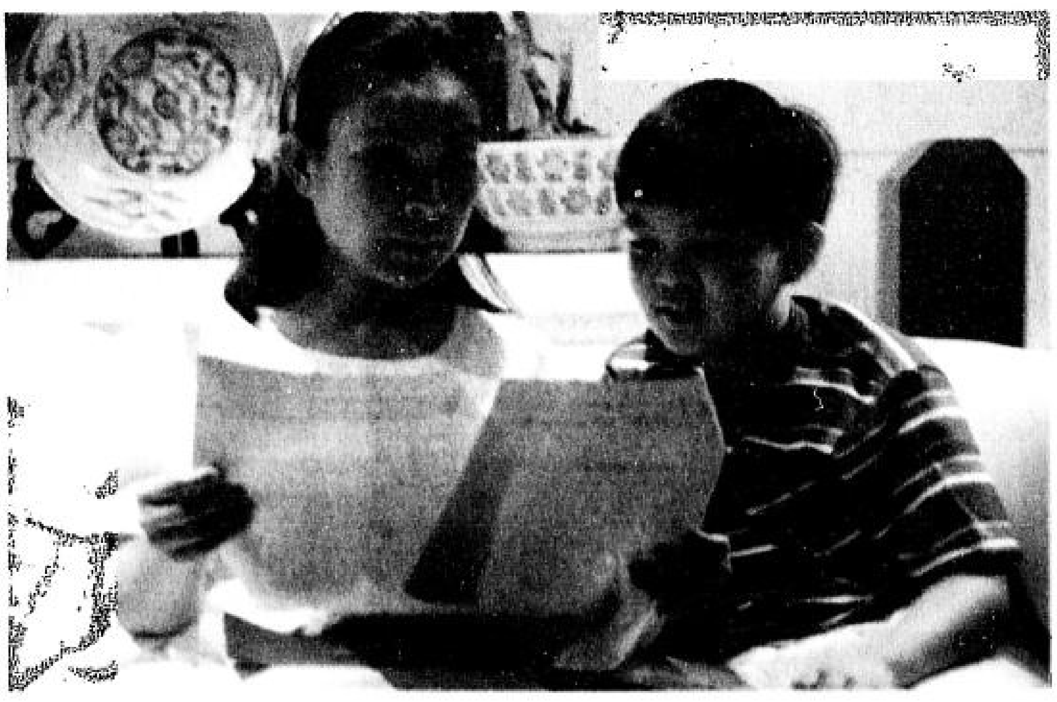
9:02 am: Loren strides towards the waiting helicopter that will take her to Pila, Laguna for a visit

9:15 am: The senator retouches her make-up inside the helicopter

2:40 pm: On board her van, Loren is briefed by aides on the day's schedule en route to a Senate session



5:15 pm: Loren checks her files and makes a quick phone call before leaving the Senate for a taping of her weekly TV show



7:50 pm: A mother as well as a legislator, Loren takes the time to check her son Lean's lessons and assignments for the coming school day

Twists of Fate

By Alcuin Papa
Photographs by Joan Bondoc

Lost boy: Friend Rolando Urbano holds a picture of Randy

Recovering Randy

THERE was a raging storm in Metro Manila the day Randy Diaz was born. It seems ironic that water would also play a part in his demise.

For almost three weeks last month, his fall into a Manila Water Company air vent leading to a main water pipe in Quezon City and the subsquent search for his body gripped the headlines. It sent the metropolis into a near panic over the safety of its water supply.

By all accounts, Randy was a simple, normal guy. At the time he died, he was 20 (not 19 as earlier reported). But sadly, some of us look at what happened to him with a degree of revulsion.

Ironically, we know more of him now in death than in life. According to his grandmother Sabina, Randy was born the day Typhoon Rading was battering Metro Manila on September 9, 1982. Along with the rains and the floods, there was another storm brewing inside Sabina. She admits she never wanted to see the child her daughter Lucy was carrying born at all.

The man who was Randy's father left when Lucy was pregnant. Sabina, 67, and her relatives tried to talk some sense into the man to face his responsibilities. But he was spirited away to Laguna by relatives. Sabina and Lucy never saw him again.

In a mad fit, Sabina swore she would give away Lucy's child upon birth. But as Lucy lay on the delivery table on that fateful rainy night, Sabina came to her senses. "I thought, everyone makes mistakes like these, and my daughter was no different," she says in Filipino.

The newborn was given the name Randy, after the typhoon that battered the city the day he was born. The new grandmother then took the baby and Lucy home to their small rundown apartment in Barangay Escopa III in Quezon City.

The Diaz apartment is a tiny two-floor dwelling near the barangay hall. Despite the size, the linoleum floor is spanking clean and household items are arranged neatly. Here, Randy Diaz lived the life of a typical teenager raised by a strict but loving Sabina. "Since his father was gone from his life, I became a sort of surrogate parent. I raised him like he was my own child," Sabina says.

The general public does not have a complete picture of what Randy looks like. All that is known of his appearance comes from his graduation picture shown on television. It is a portrait of Randy from the neck up with a smug smile, and holding a diploma.

> *'Revulsion and fear accompanied the story of a body trapped in Quezon City's water pipes. But victim Randy Diaz was a real person with real dreams, and his death a sad and tragic event*

But Sabina and Lucy remember Randy clearly. He was not tall at 5'2" but his thin wiry body was packed with firm muscles built by manual labor. He never had a girlfriend, but Randy was being constantly followed by girls. "He never gave them any mind and he never made affairs of the heart a problem at all," recalls Sabina.

Randy loved music, mostly rock and local rap groups. In his spare time, he loved watching TV or just plain hanging out with friends. He also loved playing basketball in the neighborhood court, and was once invited to join the barangay league games. Not willing to be in the spotlight, he refused the invitation.

Sabina says Randy was always a quiet child and never gave them any problem at all, the way naughty children do. He was never talkative, never rebelled, never cussed or swore. "He was never out on the streets engaging in fisticuffs or fights. He liked to live a quiet life."

Randy never smoked and drank alcohol only with friends during infrequent drinking sprees. "I told him he could go out drinking if he put the alcohol here," pointing to her stomach, "and not in the head."

The Diaz family was poor, but they did their best to make ends meet. The elders managed to put enough food on the table for the growing Randy and his half-brother Jonathan. Like Sabina, Lucy washes clothes and aunt Marlyn is a janitress in a government agency.

When he was old enough, Randy pitched in to bring food to the Diaz table. At a young age, he learned to be responsible and inculcated the value of manual labor from Sabina. He worked part-time as a construction worker, a bottle collector for a nearby junk shop and a part-time tricycle driver.

"He was very industrious and helpful. He only managed to finish grade school at the P. Alonso Public School on J.P. Rizal. But he did whatever he could to help the family," Sabina points out. When not busy with work, Randy stayed home and helped with household chores like cooking rice, fetching water, cleaning house.

Randy had simple dreams. "His ultimate dream was to buy his own tricycle to augment our meager income," Sabina remembers. With the earnings from his route, Randy promised Sabina he would shoulder the tuition and schooling of 13-year-old Jonathan.

"He never showed it to us, but I knew he loved us because we brought him up well and provided for his needs."

The fateful day Randy fell into the air vent last May 17, Sabina got up early to go to a charismatic event in Batangas. "He was never that religious but for some reason, he wanted to come with me. But I didn't have any money to pay for his fare so I told him to stay home and help with the chores. I keep wondering what would have happened if he came with me instead or that day," Sabina sadly recalls.

When she came back from Batangas, Sabina's household was in disarray with news of Randy's accident. Later, she managed to piece together what had happened.

Sometime during lunchtime, a certain Millet came by Barangay Escopa and asked some young men to pick fruit from the mango trees, which grew inside their house on 115 Bignay St., Barangay Quirino. The three volunteers invited Randy to join their expedition. In return, they would get a share of the harvest.

One of those who came along, Rolando "Ayi" Urbano, recalls the accident clearly. He told the INQUIRER he and of his friends were up in one tree picking the fruit and throwing them down below for Randy to catch.

Suddenly, Ayi heard a loud crack and turned his head just in time to see Randy vanish into the air vent. They rushed down the mango trees and peered into the deep dark hole calling out Randy's name. They heard no response.

"We tied a long piece of rope to a rock and dropped it into the hole. We called out to Randy to grab it. We didn't hear a thing, only rushing water. Next, we tied a ladder to the rope and lowered it down. Again, we called out to him. But the current was so strong it swept away our ladder. When that didn't work, we decided to call the police," a still shocked Ayi explains.

For three weeks, Sabina, Lucy and their relatives agonized over the loss of Randy. "We could hardly sleep or eat. We were sad and worried. I kept thinking why something like this would happen to him. All we wanted then was to give him the proper burial and put his soul to rest."

The search was slow and tedious and frayed the nerves of Sabina and the others. The long wait took its toll on Sabina. After two weeks of scant sleep, she was rushed to the hospital for hypertension.

Sabina is hesitant to blame anyone for what happened to her grandchild. She says she learned later that the hole into which Randy fell was covered only with a piece of plywood under a thin layer of cement which gave away under Randy's weight. "Maybe it was God's will, and it was his time to go."

The breakthrough in the search came at around lunchtime on June 4, when workers digging a hole at the corner of Monte de Piedad and E. Rodriguez Avenue in Quezon City found strands of hair and a piece of skin. Finally, Randy's body was found four hours later by divers at the corner of Sct. Catolos Street and E. Rodriquez, at least three kilometers from where Randy fell.

That night, Lucy and Marlyn rushed to the funeral parlor in Manila where the body was brought, Lucy could not bear to see the remains of her son. "I couldn't hold myself together," the normally quiet Lucy says.

Sabina sadly notes that Quezon City hall officials refused the family's request to hold the wake at the Escopa barangay hall for reasons of sanitation. "It was painful enough that we could not see his remains because of the closed casket. While some people say he contaminated the water, he was still human, and he was my grandchild."

Randy was buried on a balmy Sunday in a cemetery in Bagbag, Valenzuela with friends, family and officials of the Manila Water Company in attendance. The company shouldered the cost of the burial and promised financial help to the family. Sabina has rejected suggestions to file a case against the company. "I don't want any more trouble. The promises of Manila Water officials to help us are enough for me. After all, we had already laid him to rest. I think Randy is happy now, wherever he is."

Coast Guard frogmen finally find Randy's remains

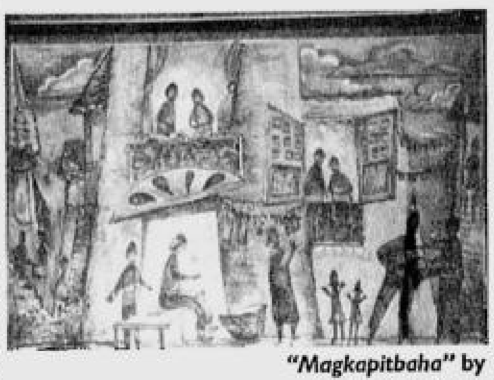
COAST GUARD

This Week

Art

Harana. Solo art exhibit by Anthony Fermin at Syano Artlink from June 21 to July 21. Syano Artlink is located at 19 Shanghai Street, Betterliving Subdivision, Parañaque City.

Felt Compositions. An exhibit by Bob Nuestro at the Drawing Room with a suite if 9 large works from June 5-25. The series is an off-shoot of his highly successful "Veiling" series shown in 2002.


"Magkapitbaha" **by Anthony Fermin**

Bone and Stone: Excavation of the Bombon Ruins, a collection of 23 black and white photographs of a maritime archaeological expedition in Taal Lake by multi-awarded travel writer and photographer Lester Ledesma, is on view at the Alcove Photo Gallery of Filipinas Heritage Library until June 28.

The Metropolitan Museum of Manila presents **KATUBIGAN: Art, Water and Community** which will be on display from June 24 to December 31, 2003. Featured artists include Fabian de la Rosa, Irineo Miranda and Dominador Castañeda. The subjects of the artworks that will be on display range from riverscapes, waterfalls, springs and fisher folk. The Metropolitan Museum of Manila is located at the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Manila and is open from Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Music

Celebrate with Nanette Inventor as she mounts her 20th anniversary in showbiz with a comedy-musical show entitled **'Fat, 50 and F-a-a-abulous!'** at Onstage Greenbelt on July 3, 9:00p.m. The show will also feature special performances by Mr. Pure Energy Gary Valenciano and Powerplay. Tickets are available at TicketWorld outlets. For ticket inquiries and reservations call 891-5610 for details.

Photo by Lester Ledesma, on exhibit at the Alcove Photo Gallery

Paco Park presents "Ang Mahal kong Pilipinas," a night of Filipino kundiman featuring one of the more respected musical teams in the country, bass-baritone Emmanuel Gregorio and pianist Lourdes de Leon Gregorio. The show will be on June 27, 6:00 p.m. at Paco Park, San Marcelino, Manila. Admission is free. For queries, you may call the **Arts and Culture Division** of the National Parks Development Committee at tel nos. 526-8163/302-7374.

Onstage

For its 28th theatre season, **Dulaang UP**, in cooperation with the Office for Initiatives in Culture and the Arts (OICA), presents Anton Cheknov's Three Sisters under the direction of Dr. Anton Juan. The play features an outstanding cast of notable stage, film, and television actors, such as Frances Makil-Ignacio, Tommy Abuel and Paolo Fabregas. Three Sisters will run from June 25 to July 13, 2003 at the Teatro Hermogenes Ylagan, Bulwagang Rizal, UP Diliman, Q.C. For tickets and inquiries, please contact Dulaang UP at 926-1349 or Lea Remulla at 09175339465 or email dulaangup_28@yahoo.com.

Food

Experience the Feast of Wines at the **Richmonde Hotel**. The Richmonde Grill overflows with a variety of flavorful red and white wines for a uniquely splendid feast. For only Php350++, choose any or all of the wines featured in the buffet spread and savor their delightfully exquisite taste in a "drink-all-you-can" spree. Partake of these superb wines from the different premier vineyards of the world to complement delectable meals at the Grill or as a relaxing touch to after-dinner get-togethers. Available until June 30 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the Richmonde Grill, located at the 2nd Floor of the Richmonde Hotel, 21 San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City. For inquiries and reservations, please call 638-7777 local 3409.

Partake of the pasta sharing affair at The Peninsula Manila's bastion of superb Italian cuisine, **Mi Piace**, and through the restaurant outlet's "Pasta Basta" promotion that runs until July 6. Normally served individually at Mi Piace, the dishes will be served in large bowls at the dining table during the "Pasta Basta" promotion, the way it is served in rustic homes in la bella Italia. For a minimum of four guests per table, you get to order two kinds of pasta along with an assortment of six different sauces for only P300++ per guest. Pasta choices will range from tagliatelle, penne, bavette, rigatoni, fussili to farfalle. Sauces are classic favorites like napoletana, arrabiata, bolognese, carbonara, pesto, puttanesca and amatriciana along with three other funky new creations like EDSA Stuffer, Mediterranean Matinee and La Dolce Vita. For inquiries and restaurant reservations, call 887-2888 local 2947 and 2952.

Atbp

The Education and Outreach Department of the Met Museum will conduct an **educational workshop** entitled MUSIC OF THE HANDS: A Pottery-Making Workshop for the Deaf and Mute on June 26 and 27, 2003 at the Met. The workshop is about the rediscovery and expansion of one's creativity. With clay molding as the major learning tool, participants will undergo a process of deeper understanding of themselves as unique and creative individuals. They will see the creative process as an ongoing journey as they become more in touch with their life's work. The workshop will run for two days and will be facilitated by sign language interpreters. Participants will come from beneficiaries of Kapwa Ko, Mahal Ko, GMA 7. Interested parties may call the Exhibitions and Education Programs Department of the Metropolitan Museum of Manila, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Manila at 523-7855.

Corporate Newsletter Publishing, a seminar offered by ExecEdit on June 26-27, focuses on the skills required to put out a newsletter that supports the goals of a company. Lecturers are publishing professionals including Jack Lim, Vergel Santos and Franco Patriarca. For details, call ExecEdit (new name of Executive Editors) at 887-3797 or 98, fax 887-3796 or email execedit@mozcom.com.

Filipinas Heritage Library will host **Toys and Stories: A storytelling session** with a healthy dose of art projects for kids ages 3 to 10 years old on June 28, Saturday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Admission fee is P150 inclusive of materials. For more details send email to events@fillib.org.ph or call 892-1801.

An **introductory workshop on the Enneagram** dubbed "Unraveling the Secrets of Personality," will be held on June 28-29, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Center for Health and Creative Arts. F. Jose Ma. De Leon, SJ, foremost Enneagram expert in the Philippines, will equip participants with a practical lifetime tool for understanding human personality and gaining deeper self-knowledge. For details call 434-5381 or 09197405791

Better Eyesight Seminar. Relearn the correct habits of seeing with the Bates method of natural eyesight improvement. Free intro lecture on June 28, Saturday, 2:30 p.m. at In-Touch Community Services 48-A McKinley Rd., Makati tel. 893-7606 / 810-6233

The resumption of the Asian mentor series by the Society of Portrait Photographers of the Philippines is on Saturday, June 28, at the Product Development and Design Center Phils., CCP Complex, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City. Titled **Basic and Beyond Photography Workshops**, the seminars are ideal for students, out-of-school youth, professionals and other photography enthusiasts. Lecturers are multi-awarded and veteran photographers known in their fields. The first seminar is on basic photography which will be held for three Saturdays. Product Illustration will be conducted by Ibarra Deri and Ramon "Baby" Blanco on July 19 and 26. Chie Zamora and Rey Dalmacio will conduct the Light Painting on July 20 and 27. Registration is on first-come, first-served basis. For pre-registration look for Marsha at Fujifilm Image Service Center, Studio Room SM Megamall Basement of Beth at Once Upon a Lifetime Digital Studio, Unit 1010, tel 806-1346. On site registration at Design Center Phils., during workshop hours or call 09164693388/09174118339/821-7978.

Sinag Arts Foundation invites you to join the **hands-on workshop on power tools** on June 28, Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m. and June 29, Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Sinag Arts Studio. This workshop is designed not only for carpenters and metal worker-assistants but also for hobbyists women and artists. Facilitating is Mr. Rene Cubar, a craftsman who excels in molding materials, woodcraft and metal craft. The fee is P2,000 for the two days inclusive of lunch and basic materials. Interested parties may e-mail Sinag Arts at sinag@fastmail.i-next.net or call 531-3491 or fax 531-9524 for inquiries and reservation.

Polymer Products(Phils.) Inc. will conduct a **Hands-On Introductory Course on Polyester Resin** (figurine making, fiberglass, stained glass, lamination, encapsulation and synthetic granite) on June 26-28. For details, call 671-9837.

For this week's bands and schedules call:

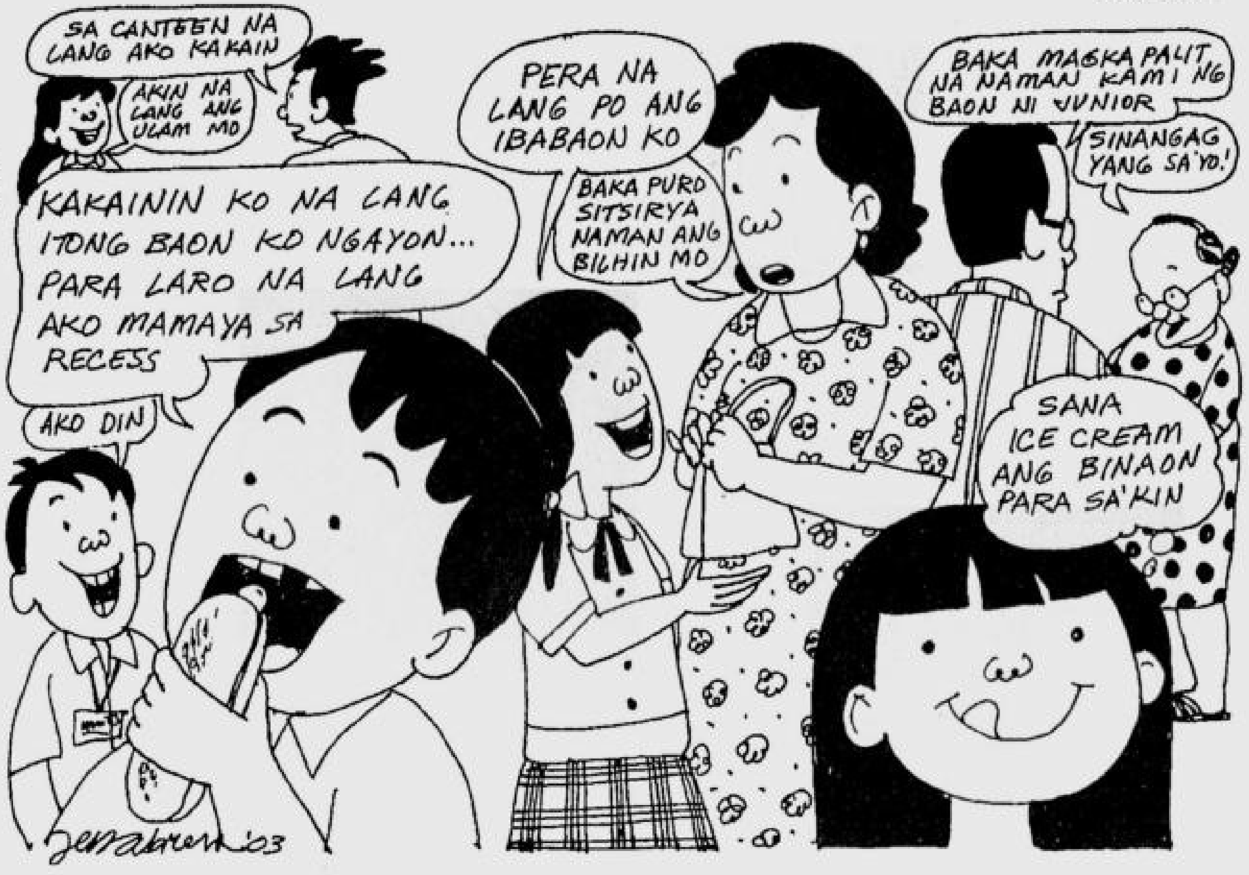
- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules.

Pinoy Nga!

By Jess Abrera

Baon


SA CANTEEN NA LANG AKO KAKAIN
AKIN NA LANG ANG ULAM MO
KAKAININ KO NA LANG ITONG BAON KO NGAYON... PARA LARO NA LANG AKO MAMAYA SA RECESS
AKO DIN
PERA NA LANG PO ANG IBABAON KO
BAKA PURO SITSIRYA NAMAN ANG BILHIN MO
BAKA MAGKA PALIT NA NAMAN KAMI NG BAON NI JUNIOR
SINANGAG YANG SA'YO!
SANA ICE CREAM ANG BINAON PARA SA'KIN
jessabrera '03

Love Notes

By Joe D' Mango

Soulmate or Not?

He told me before that if everything could be ironed out, maybe we could be more than friends. Now he has a girlfriend, but he still wants me to be as sweet and as caring as before

Dear Joe,

I am a medical student who has never had a boyfriend. But I have been in love with a guy I met when I was 10. I have loved him for 11 years, but had to give up hoping that we could be a couple because of our many differences. Being in school was like having a new life, a fresh start for me. I never imagined that med school could be this fun.

Despite the heavy load, I found myself enjoying med school with my two new found girl friends. I thought it would always be that way. Until I met this classmate of mine.

I never noticed him until he approached me and asked me if we could be friends. That was weird, but I did not assume anything. Some friends thought he was interested in me. But I did not entertain that thought. I was not ready to fall in love again, not yet anyway.

At first I was hesitant to be friends with him. A friend had fallen in love with him and I had no intention of interfering. But no matter how many times I tried to avoid him, he always seemed to be there. And I really appreciated it when he was there to comfort me when I had a big problem. From then on we became closer. We went out one night to have coffee, and there we found that we had so many similarities. It was like finding my soulmate.

I told myself that I shouldn't fall for him. We both knew that falling for each other was inevitable. I thought we could be more than friends.

But after a disagreement, he admitted that he already had a girlfriend. But he told me that he did not want to have a relationship with a classmate. He didn't want anybody to take control of his every action..

He told me before that if everything could be ironed out, maybe we could be more than friends. Now he has a girlfriend, but he still wants me to be as sweet and as caring as before. He even told me indirectly to never stop loving I feel for him.

I was devastated. Why did he have to look for other girls when he told me I was different from the other girls?

My friends told me to forget him. They think that he loves me but he is too afraid that he would lose his freedom if we become a couple. He didn't want to lose me but was afraid to commit.

Now school will start in a few weeks and we will see each other again. He wants us to treat each other in the same way. But I don't think I could be as sweet and caring for him anymore. Although I want to move on, there is this one thing that hinders me. There is this feeling that he is the guy I am to marry. I did not make this up. It appeared to me as a vision when we were in church, praying hand in hand.

Joe, please tell me what to do. I planned to avoid him and start a new life without him, but I don't think that's fair for both of us. Could I still hope that maybe in the future we could be together? What is he really afraid of?

Sincerely,
Nina

Dear Nina,

It is obvious that your friend is playing a very safe but rather self-serving game.

He likes you but he is still committed to his girlfriend. He is trying to keep you so he can run to you whenever he wants. But, he gives no guarantee in return. I don't think he loves you enough. He wants you to wait. And you're doing him a big favor just by doing so.

Nina, soulmate or not, it is still best to move on, even without him. But don't just drift away. Tell him how uncertain you feel about your relationship and just be honest about your feelings for him. The future holds a treasure of surprises. No one can tell you if it's him you will be walking down the aisle with, or somebody else. You just have to believe that there is someone destined to be with you forever. That could be anybody.

Sometimes, the most important thing that we get from a relationship is not the guarantee of permanence but the lesson that we learn from it when it fails. It is not how much love we have received but how much love we have given. It is not how many tears we have shed, but how much laughter we have shared. It is not how many times we were accepted but how many times we understood when we were rejected. In the end, it is not always how much happiness we have had because of love, but how much love we have given that made others happy.

Backpages

Transformation

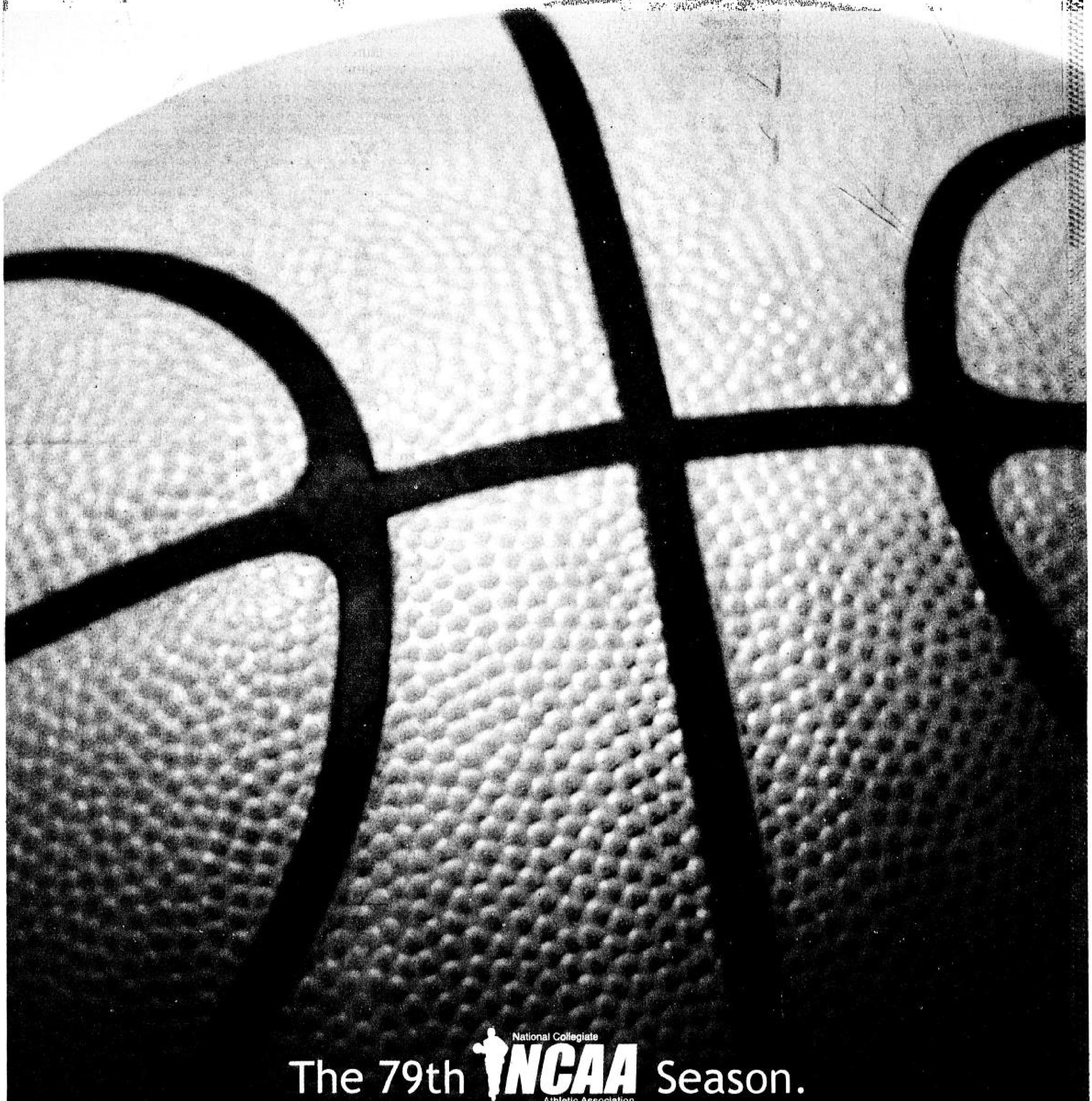
Making the leap from bold actress to dramatic lead, Jaclyn Jose found a niche in showbiz

Jaclyn Jose, the cover girl for SIM's June 25, 1989 issue, admitted that doing bold roles made her feel insecure. Ironically, though, her bold flicks helped pave the way for a stellar career in showbiz. Described as shy and something of a loner by her co-workers, Jaclyn, Mary Jane Guck in real life, prepared for her roles by doing research, once visiting a seedy toro joint for her role as a torera in Chito Roño's "Private Show." Her efforts were not wasted, as they earned her both the Urian and Star Awards for Best Actress. She also won an Urian Best Actress for her superb portrayal of a bored housewife in "Itanong Mo Sa Buwan," where she co-starred with then rumored boyfriend, Mark Gil. Displaying the same unwavering intensity on TV, she played Magda in ABS-CBN's "Mula sa Puso," later transferring to GMA, where she now plays Mariana in "Sana Ikaw Na Nga." " I just want a simple life," Jaclyn once quipped. Fate, it seems, had other plans for one of the Philippines' most versatile actresses.

SUNDAY
INQUIRER

Mia Saavedra

Here it comes again.



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